

2018-2019

School Programs & Field Trips

**GEORGE RANCH HISTORICAL PARK
FORT BEND MUSEUM
TEXIAN TIME MACHINE**



Thank you for taking a look at the Fort Bend History Association's 2018-2019 school programs catalog. The Association, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, runs the educational programs at the **George Ranch Historical Park, Fort Bend Museum** and other historic structures in Fort Bend County. We've packaged all our school programs together in this booklet to make it easy for you to find the perfect experience for your students, curriculum and budget. Contact and booking information for each site is listed after each section. We're looking forward to sharing Texas history with you and your students this year! Learn more about the Association at fbhistory.org.

About the George Ranch Historical Park

The George Ranch Historical Park is an outdoor living history museum located on a historic working ranch that was founded in 1824. Four historic sites anchor the Park and give visitors and students a look into more than a century of Texas history. School programs are designed to take students back in time with hands-on activities and period demonstrations led by experienced interpreters. Different activities and programs are designated for individual grade levels and are aligned with appropriate TEKS content. And, thanks to our friends at WCA, ask about our Title 1 discount!

CONTACT:

education@georgeranch.org • 281-343-0218 x220
10215 FM 762 • Richmond, TX 77469 • georgeranch.org



About the Fort Bend Museum

The Fort Bend Museum tells the story of Texas and Fort Bend County history through an exhibit gallery, educational programming and daily tours of the 1883 historic Moore home and 1855 Long-Smith Cottage. Located in the heart of Richmond's downtown historic district, the Museum's programs are aligned with appropriate TEKS content.

CONTACT:

education@fortbendmuseum.org • 281-342-6478
500 Houston Street • Richmond, TX 77469 • fortbendmuseum.org



About the Texian Time Machine

The Texian Time Machine is an educational outreach program that brings the experiences of the early settlers to life on your school campus. Through immersive role-playing and hands-on activities provided by experienced costumed presenters, students engage in a compelling field trip experience with no travel time and minimal cost.

CONTACT:

timemachine@fortbendmuseum.org • 281-342-6478
fbhistory.org/texian-time-machine





Structured School Programs at the George Ranch Historical Park

Structured programs at the Park are as unique and distinctive as the stories history tells. Set in authentic period settings, the Park's individual structured programs deliver an incomparable historic experience through engaging activities, dynamic demonstrations and entertaining and informative costumed interpreters. These programs can be booked from August 31, 2018 through May 15, 2019. *Note: One adult is free for every 10 students. Extra adults are \$10 per person.*

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Pre-K through 1st Grade

DAYS: Tuesday – Thursday • **TIMES:** 9 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. • **COST:** \$7 per student



Little Farmers

Bring the little ones out and learn about farming at our 1890s Sharecropper Farm site. This program will include live animal encounters. Students will:

- Listen to a story about life on a farm and learn how everyone needs to work together to make a farm prosper.
- Learn how crops grow with our Sharecropper and get their hands dirty with a growing experience.
- Meet some of the Ranch animals and learn how to care for and feed our farm animal friends.



Structured School Programs, cont.

Grades 2-5

DAYS: Tuesday – Thursday

TIMES: 9 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

COST: \$7 per student

Pioneers in Texas

Learn about pioneer life in 1830s pre-Revolution Texas through an exploration of how early pioneers accomplished the essential—food, shelter and clothing—in this new land. Students will:

- Experience an open hearth cooking demonstration and learn about food acquisition in this new frontier.
- Discover domestic life with an introduction to the dog trot cabin. In addition, tour the outbuildings which were critical extensions of the home on an early stock farm.
- Explore log cabin life through spinning and weaving demonstrations as well as hands-on activities such as hand ginning cotton and finger spinning.
- Additional rotations may include activities such as Native American sign language, chores or field work.

From Pasture to Parlor

Experience life in 1860s post-Civil War Texas with a visit to the home of Polly Ryon and her husband. Learn about the lives of the different people who helped operate a working Ranch in this era. Students will:

- Learn about the life of the 19th century child and experience the one-room school house.
- Discover the life of an 1860s cowboy with interactive activities that explore the Ryons’ ranching operations.
- Explore domestic service life at a large ranch and participate in the daily chores necessary to keep the ranch running smoothly. Hands-on activities may include laundry, cooking and/or other daily chores.
- Additional rotations may include activities based on the life of the 19th century ranch owner. Activities may include etiquette, business practices or genteel domestic skills.

Ranch Life in the 1930s

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

- Visit the Bach House and experience life as a 1930s cowboy while learning about the Georges’ large 1930s ranching operation.
- Get a taste of 1930s domestic life by helping out Ms. Mamie and Josephine, the housekeeper, with the daily chores.
- Explore children’s leisure-time activities from this period including a vintage radio program, a discussion of commonly-played games and a peek into a popular comic book from this era.
- An optional rotation for older audiences includes a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) program.



Role-Playing School Programs at the George Ranch Historical Park

Grades 6-12

DAYS: Tuesday – Thursday
TIMES: 9 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.
COST: \$12 per student

Role-playing programs are fully-immersive experiences that encourage participants to relive a historical scenario by taking on period roles. Students learn and connect more deeply to the past with these highly interactive and engaging programs. These programs can be booked from August 31, 2018 through May 15, 2019. *Note: One adult is free for every 10 students. Extra adults are \$10 per person.*

Gone To Texas

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 settlers in this hands-on, student-led introduction to pioneer life. Students will:

- Be assigned to pioneer families who will have to take on tasks to ensure the cooperation and survival of the family and community.
- Begin the colonization process by delegating and accomplishing the necessary tasks to start their new home including building a log cabin, cooking cornbread and spinning cotton.
- Face the multiple challenges thrown in the path to success and prosper through strategic planning, resourcefulness and sheer will. Who will survive and who will thrive?

A House Divided: A Civil War Journey

Plunge your students into the dramatic and harsh reality of the Civil War. Participants will take on specific roles as Union soldiers, Confederate soldiers or civilians on both sides of the conflict. Who will make it through to the end? Students will:

- Be recruited into the role of a civilian or soldier and learn about the process through the eyes of a specific recruit.
- Go through the training process of their assigned role and experience the complexity of emotions of those about to enter battle for the first time.
- Participate in a small tactical exercise and discover their fate as the battle progresses. Who will live, who will die and what will be YOUR story?



Self-Guided School Tours

All Grade Levels

DAYS: Fridays from September-May OR any time January 29-February 8 OR daily beginning May 16
TIMES: Flexible • **COST:** \$5/student *Note: One adult is free for every 10 students. Extra adults are \$10 per person.*

Self-Guided Park Tours (\$5/student)

Looking to customize your Park visit to align with your subject content? Want the freedom to set your own agenda? Self-guided Park tours may be right for you! Our self-guide tours allow you to set your own schedule and travel at your own pace and are a unique and flexible way to see the entire Park. We recommend dividing into groups of 25 or less (especially if touring the historic homes) for the optimum experience.

Self-Guided Photography Tour (\$6/student)

Year after year, the George Ranch Historical Park is a popular place for Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo artists to gather inspiration for their next masterpiece. Enhance your visit with this special program designed with student artists in mind. Each group will be provided with a visual guide full of photography tips, unique location suggestions and more!

NEW!

Homeschool Days at the Ranch

September 12 & 13, 2018 • January 23 & 24, 2019

See program options and register online at georgeranch.org/plan-a-visit/home-schoolers/

What to Know Before You Visit:

For any trip that you plan here at the Ranch, please plan to arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled program time and allow 90 minutes for your classes to complete a program. Encourage children to dress comfortably for the outdoors, wear closed-toed shoes and plan for plenty of walking. The loop around the Park is just over one mile. Please ask about handicap or special needs transportation if applicable. To help everyone stay hydrated, bottled water is allowed into the Park. We also have picnic tables available for lunch.

CONTACT:

education@georgeranch.org • 281-343-0218 x220 • 10215 FM 762 • Richmond, TX • georgeranch.org



Ideal for Grades 4-7

October 19, 2018: School Day
\$7 per student

OUR BIGGEST EVENT OF THE YEAR!
Historical Re-Enactments
Hands-On Activities • Old-Fashioned Games
Cattle Demonstrations • Entertainment
Historic Home Tours • And More!

More info at TexianMarketDays.com

Bookings: 281-343-0218 x220



Ideal for Grades 1-4

February 21, 2019: Homeschool Day
February 22, 2019: School Day
\$7 per student

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

Bookings: 281-343-0218 x220



*Capture the independent
Texas spirit!*



Structured School Programs at the Fort Bend Museum

Students are divided into classes or groups of 15 to 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 is aligned with appropriate TEKS content. Teacher packets of pre- and post-visit activities are available online at www.fortbendmuseum.org. *Note: One adult is free for every 10 students. Extra adults are \$10 per person.*

CONTACT:

education@fortbendmuseum.org • 281-342-6478

500 Houston Street • Richmond, TX 77469 • fortbendmuseum.org

DAYS: Tuesday – Friday • START: 9:30 a.m. • COST: \$7 per student





ALL GRADE LEVELS

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, using 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 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 will also get to walk on stilts.

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 for Texas Independence in 1836 and beyond. Students are encouraged to participate in the discussion and to handle some artifacts.



Digging into the Past

Archeology is a physical search for things of the past— 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 experience archeology first-hand during a simulated dig.

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.

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.



OTHER OPTIONS:

Presenters on Campus

Let one of our experienced presenters visit your campus as an individual program or as part of a whole day of “pioneer events.” Cost includes the presenter’s time plus all supplies. Limit of two presenters per day. Call for available programs. Cost per presenter is \$125 for three hours and \$225 for six hours.

Pioneer Traveling Trunk

A costumed interpreter will visit your classroom and bring the trunk, which includes artifacts from pioneer times in Texas (1821-1836). Cost is \$125 for three hours.

PRE-K TO 1ST GRADE

Students are divided into groups of 15 to 25 and rotate through two different activities. Available Tuesday through Friday; cost is \$5/student. Programs take place from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. *Note: One adult is free for every 10 students. Extra adults are \$10/person.*

HANDS-ON HISTORY

- Storytime in the Fort Bend Museum’s gallery
- Handle Texas pioneer artifacts

CHILDREN’S CHORES

- Interactive tour of the 1855 Long-Smith Cottage
- Churning butter, washing clothes and more!



Texian Time Machine: Time Travel — without the Travel!

ALL GRADE LEVELS

The Texian Time Machine is an interactive, hands-on program that brings the living history experience to your school! Students will rotate through a variety of stations in 20 to 30 minute segments. The programs cost \$12 per student and can take place Monday through Friday. Schools with fewer than 60 students will be charged a \$720 flat fee. Schools with more than 200 students will need a two-day program.

CONTACT:

timemachine@fortbendmuseum.org • 281-342-6478 • fbhistory.org/texian-time-machine

Texian Colony Rotations:

Land Grants: Apply for citizenship and receive a land grant to settle in the Republic of Mexico in the early 1820s — and sign your name with a quill pen.

Print Shop: Explore the print-making process, the earliest form of communication and journalism in Texas.

Textiles: Gin and card cotton while learning how this basic fiber was planted, harvested and turned into thread and cloth.

Games: “Recess Time”: play games from the past, including stilts, Bilbo Catchers and rolling hoops.

Cooking: Discover the joys of food preparation – tasting included! Use math skills to make a cornbread recipe.

Cabin-Building: Use real logs to build a cabin or fence and learn about the many tools needed to create, improve and maintain a homestead.

Militia: “Enlist” in the militia and practice a typical military drill while learning about the basics of protection on the frontier.

One-Room School: Become a student for a day in a pioneer school—and complete a variety of lessons such as reading, ’riting and ’rithmetic!

NOTE: Other enrichment stations can be offered for both the Texian and American Colony rotations. These are based on specific presenter availability and include Music, Blacksmithing (Mondays only), and Frontier Survival. Please contact us for more info!

TEXIAN TIME MACHINE

Time Travel — without the Travel!
More details on page 11.



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ALL GRADE LEVELS

American Colony Rotations:

Cooking: Discover the joys of food preparation – tasting included! Use math skills to make a gingerbread recipe.

School: Enter a 1770s classroom and complete a variety of lessons such as recitation, arithmetic and spelling.

Militia: Join the Minutemen and practice a typical military drill!

Cash Crops: Learn about the different crops that early American settlers grew to generate income.

Knots: Learn to tie different knots that were used on boats and in the early American colonies for various tasks.

Flags: What do colors and symbols on a flag mean? Decide on a class flag using symbolism and colors from the past.

Construction: How did America's first colonists build their homes? Discover the answer with a hands-on activity centered around simple construction techniques of the early settlers.

Games: "Recess Time": play games from the past, including stilts, Bilbo Catchers and rolling hoops.

Ask about our single-presenter programs!

ACREDITED BY
American Alliance of Museums
fbhistory.org
georghanch.org
fortbendmuseum.org

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George Ranch Historical Park
Fort Bend County Museum
DeWalt Heritage Center

CONNECT WITH US!

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