

Lake Meredith Alibates Flint Quarries

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Lake Meredith National Recreation Area
Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument



Junior Ranger Day 2015



Explore, Learn & Protect!

Children, and Children At Heart, as they become Junior Rangers, all take an oath of their own to protect parks, continue to learn about parks, and share their own ranger story with friends and family. During Junior Ranger Day, participants will have the opportunity to learn more about the park and earn an extra patch. Special activities will be offered throughout the day for children and families.

Mequite Trail Discovery Hike

One of the best ways to explore Lake Meredith and Alibates is by hiking all of the trails! Join Ranger Jen for a easy hike (0.3 miles) on the Mesquite Trail.

Observation Skills are a Must

While you are out hiking, it is important to notice what is going on around you. This hike will

involve a few games, right out on the trail, that will help young and old alike hone their observation skills and bring back memories of discovering thing you might have missed on your own. Note: This hike is going to be offered twice, at different times of the day. Morning and afternoon times will allow for different observations, possible animals sightings and family groups hiking together on the trail.

Building a Campfire & Knot Tying

If you were to spend a few nights camping out here at Lake Meredith, what skills would you need? Join Chief Jones for two demonstrations sure to help with your future adventures in the Texas outdoors.

First, you will learn the materials and process for safely building a campfire. Also learn how to fully extinguish your campfire when you're ready to sleep for the evening.

Second, watch a demonstration of tying knots for various purposes. Used in boating, climbing and rescue efforts, the ability to tie the right knot for any situation can help save lives!

Try your hand at the basics and take home a sample of your work!

Build Your Own National Park

Why do we protect Lake Meredith and Alibates Flint Quarries? What is so special about these places? What is the National Park Service and what does it do?

The National Park Service was designed to take care of America's special natural and cultural treasures.

Using a simple piece of string, Junior Rangers will "create" their own very special park on the hillside next to the Alibates Visitor Center.



Spring Canyon is a beautiful part of Lake Meredith National Recreation Area.

Mammals of the Texas Panhandle

Did you know that larger mammals such as the American Bison or sometimes referred to as Buffalo along with the Elk and the Gray Wolf once called this place home. Today Mountain Lions, white-tailed deer and beavers call Lake Meredith and Alibates "home". Learn how each of these animals is ideally suited to surviving on the High

Plains of Texas and how they are connected to other animals and plant communities that we find all around us today.

Remember that the skins and skulls will be set up all day if you want to take a second look!

Paint a Petroglyph

We see pictures all the time. We take pictures with our smartphones so we can remember the special people and events in our lives. But how did Native Americans do this long before modern technology? Join a Ranger for a brief discussion of petroglyphs.

Get your creative juices flowing while you design your own petroglyphs. Tell the story of your Junior Ranger Day in the park!



The 10 Essentials

Can you guess what you might want to bring with you on a hike? Do you have a backpack full of supplies for hiking?

Rangers like to suggest hikers bring extra water and few basic supplies with them when they set out on a hiking adventure at Lake Meredith and Alibates.

The Ten Essentials

Join a ranger as she shares what she has in her backpack and what she thinks are the Top Ten useful things to bring on any hike.

Don't forget to grab a Ten Essentials card to help remind you of the basics when you're packing for your next adventure!

Archery & Atlatl Demonstration

An essential skill to the survival of the Native American peoples who thrived for centuries on the High Plains was the skill of hunting. Hand-made tools were used, such as a bow and arrows and a spear thrower called an "Atlatl", which uses leverage to achieve greater velocity or force in dart throwing. This weapon was especially effective during the end of the last Great Ice Age when larger mammals roamed the area. Come watch a demonstration of using a bow and arrow and using an atlatl to throw spears and then try them for yourself!



Flintknapping

Park Volunteer and flintknapper, Jimmy Green will be demonstrating his flintknapping skills and telling stories throughout the day. Sit with him a spell and watch as he turns rocks into arrowheads.

