



Ranger-led Programs and Activities – On-Site Programs

The following on-site programs are available year round and are tied to the New Mexico Benchmarks and Standards for Learning. Programs are given at 9 and 10:30 a.m., and 1 p.m., with a group limit of 30.

These are 45-minute conducted activities followed by the self-guided Big Room tour:

- **K – 1st grades: *Bats Like Us***

They might fly, but bats have more in common with humans than birds. Compare the unique features of a bat to the person you know best—you!

Meets: Strand I, Standard I, Benchmark I
Strand I, Standard I, Benchmark II
Strand I, Standard I, Benchmark III

Strand II, Standard II, Benchmark I
Strand II, Standard II, Benchmark II
Strand II, Standard II, Benchmark III

- **2nd – 3rd grade: *Another World***

Life thrives even in the darkest of places. Discover the numerous lives inside caves and find out how life adapts in the underground world.

Meets: Strand I, Standard I, Benchmark I
Strand II, Standard II, Benchmark I

Strand II, Standard II, Benchmark II
Strand III, Standard I, Benchmark I

- **4th – 6th grade: *Three Kinds of Geology***

Learn that it wasn't just one, but several events that occurred to make Carlsbad Caverns look the way it does today.

Meets: Strand I, Standard I, Benchmark I
Strand III, Standard I, Benchmark I

Strand II, Standard III, Benchmark II

- **4th – 6th grade: *Beneficial Bats***

The world's only true flying mammal is the bat. Find out why this creature is so beneficial to our world.

Meets: Strand II, Standard II, Benchmark I

Strand II, Standard II, Benchmark II

- **5th – 6th grade: *Man versus Cave***

Carlsbad Caverns has been known for hundreds of years. Find out what happens when humans interact with a cave for just one century.

Meets: Strand I, Standard I, Benchmark II
Strand II, Standard II, Benchmark I

Strand II, Standard I, Benchmark I

The following program includes a 1½-hour guided hike through the Natural Entrance, followed by the self-guided Big Room tour.

- **9th grade and up: *Carlsbad Cavernology***

Discover the many "ologies" of science that are found at Carlsbad Caverns. This program also introduces a variety of career fields in the outdoors.

Meets: Strand I, Standard I, Benchmark I
Strand I, Standard I, Benchmark II

Strand II, Standard II, Benchmark I
Strand III, Standard I, Benchmark I



Ranger-led Programs and Activities – Guided Tours

The following guided tours are available weekdays, October through April only, dependent upon staffing. Check with the Education Office at least 3 weeks in advance. Tour fees are waived upon school fee waiver approval.

Kings Palace

9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

The Kings Palace tour is a $\frac{3}{4}$ -mile loop through four scenic chambers that are known for dense groves of large and beautiful cave formations. Although not wheelchair accessible due to the steep 80-foot descent into and out of the area, the route is developed with electric lighting and paved trails. *Group size limited to 30 students per tour.*

Programs available:

- 3rd – 6th grade: *Human Impact*
- 7th grade and up: *Preserve or Provide: the NPS Mission*

Slaughter Canyon Cave

9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

This is a primitive cave located in the backcountry of Carlsbad Caverns National Park that is considerably more strenuous than the Kings Palace. Access to the cave requires a steep $\frac{1}{2}$ -mile hike up the side of a 500-foot canyon wall. Cave trails are undeveloped dirt and flowstone paths that are often slippery and uneven. There is no electricity, *so each student must have at least a D-cell flashlight.* Students should also wear sturdy hiking shoes. *Group size limited to 20 students per tour.*

Programs available:

- 5th – 8th grade: *Wilderness and Habitat*
- 9th grade and up: *Managing a Wilderness*

Rattlesnake Springs

Scheduled upon request

Oasis in the Desert: Rattlesnake Springs is a nearby riparian area that also serves as the park's water supply. Whether your class is studying wildlife, plants, water cycles or human interaction with the world, this rare desert oasis proves that life is centralized around water.

Carlsbad Caverns

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Carlsbad Caverns National Park
New Mexico
www.nps.gov/cave



Ranger-led Programs and Activities – In-Class Presentations

The following in-class presentations are available year round. Each presentation lasts approximately 45-minutes.

- **K – 4th grade: *Let's Get Batty***
Bats are the only true flying mammals in the world. They are more closely related to humans than birds! Learn more about these amazing flying creatures of the night.
- **4th – 8th grade: *Creating a Cave***
Sulfuric acid carved out the cave? An elevator shaft 750 feet underground? Find out what else makes Carlsbad Caverns such a unique cave.
- **8th – High School: *Who Will I Be?***
Rocks, plants, animals, people, mechanics, research, computers... Will your career allow you to experience them all? Explore the career world of the National Park Service.