



Field Trips: Bring your Students to Colorado National Monument



Ranger-guided programs with standards-based curriculum are available for 3rd, 4th and 6th grades. Contact our education rangers at **970-858-3617 ext 367** to book a field trip. All programs are free of charge. Lengths vary. Picnic and camping facilities available.

3rd Grade

Choose the *No Thoroughfare Canyon Hike* (3 or 4 hrs.), *Serpents Trail Stroll* (3 hrs.), or *Activity Stations and Short Walks* (3 rotations, 1 hr. each).

***No Thoroughfare Canyon Hike* (3 miles, 3 or 4 hrs.):**

Fall Theme: Rock Cycle Ramble

(Earth Materials: Rocks & Soil/Rock Cycle)

Students will investigate the rock cycle and explore the three different types of rocks in the canyon. **Science 3.1**

Spring Theme: Spring into Life Cycles

(Growth & Development: Life Cycle Events)

On a hike in No Thoroughfare Canyon students will explore the life cycles of insects, amphibians, and mammals. **Science 2.1**

***Serpents Trail Stroll* (2 miles, 3 hours):**

(Geography of the Grand Valley)

While hiking down the historic Serpents Trail students will gain a better understanding of the geography of the Grand Valley and history of the area. **Social Studies G.1, H.2**

Activity Stations and Short Walks: (Choose 3)

Radical Rocks *(Earth Materials: Rocks & Soil/Rock Cycle)*

Through games and activities students will discover how rocks form and change throughout the rock cycle. **Science 3.1**

Looking at Landforms *(Geography of the Grand Valley)*

On a walk to an overlook of the Grand Valley students will identify landforms and the processes that shape them.

Science 3.1, Social Studies G.1

From Utes to Cowboy Boots *(The Grand Valley)*

Students will explore artifacts and photos to gain a better understanding of the human history of the Grand Valley and the Monument. **Social Studies H.1, H.2**

Investigating Insects *(Growth & Development: Life Cycle Events)*

Through games and observations students will investigate insect life cycles. **Science 2.1**

4th Grade

Choose the *Monumental Hike* (4½ hrs.) or *Activity Stations and Short Hikes* (2 rotations, 1.5 hr. each)

***Monumental Hike in Lower Monument Canyon* (5 miles, 4 hrs.):**

Fall Theme: Discovering Fossils *(Change Over Time/Fossils)*

On a hike to Independence Monument students will explore how the Monument has changed over time by looking at fossils and other evidence of past environments preserved in the rock layers. **Science 2.2**

Spring Theme: Desert Dwellers

(Living Things and Their Habitats)

Students will discover what different plants and animals need to survive on their way to Independence Monument. During the hike students will explore the differences and similarities of desert plants and animals. **Science 2.2**

Activity Stations and Short Hikes: (Choose 2)

Digging Into Fossils *(Change Over Time/Fossils)*

Through activities and a short hike along the Canyon Rim Trail, students will investigate fossil evidence from the rock layers to learn about past environments. **Science 3.1**

From Utes to Cowboy Boots *(The Grand Valley)*

Students will explore artifacts and photos to gain a better understanding of the human history of the Grand Valley and the Monument. **Social Studies H.1, H.2**

An Alcove for an Abode *(Living Things and Their Habitats)*

Along the Alcove Nature Trail students will explore the shrub and woodland life zone while examining the similarities, differences, and interactions of desert plants and animals. **Science 2.1, 2.3**

6th Grade

Choose the *Fall or Spring Theme: Hike in No Thoroughfare Canyon* (2.5 miles, 1.5 hrs.) and two *Activity Stations* (30-45min.)

Fall Theme: *(Constructive and Destructive Earth's Processes)*

Exploring the Evidence

On a ranger-guided hike, students will identify the evidence of the geological processes (rock cycle, weathering and erosion, flash floods) that shape the canyon. **Science 3.1**

Station: Masters of Models

Students will model mountain building, stream erosion and flash floods using sandboxes. **Science 3.1**

Station: Rockin' Around

During this teacher-led journaling time, students will compare and contrast samples of sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rock types. **Science 3.1**

Spring Theme: (Water Cycle and Ecosystems)

Walking through the Water Cycle

On a ranger-guided hike, students will investigate the effects of the water cycle on a seasonal pool. **Science 3.2**

Station: Desert Dwellers

Through interactive, ranger-led activities, students will investigate ecosystems and how organisms interact with the environment. **Science 2.1, 2.2**

Station: Balancing Biodiversity

During this teacher-led journaling time, students will reflect on how changes in an environment can effect ecosystems and biodiversity. **Science 2.1, 2.2**

Don't see a program that fits the needs of your classroom?

Call our Education Rangers to discuss a custom program for other grades and/or other topics at:
970-858-3617 ext 367.

For detailed descriptions and reservation forms: www.nps.gov/colm/forteachers