



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Ranger Programs Available for Field Trips:

To make a reservation, or if you have any questions, please call our Education Rangers **(970) 858-3617 ext 367**.

### Option 1: No Thoroughfare Canyon Hike (3 miles, 4 hrs.)

Teachers may choose either theme for this hike depending on season (spring or fall) and educational goals.

#### **Fall Theme: Rock Cycle Ramble** (*Earth Materials: Rocks & Soil/Rock Cycle*)

Along the hike students will take a closer look at different rocks and how they form.

**Science 3.1** – Earth's materials can be broken down and/or combined into different materials such as rocks, minerals, rock cycle, formation of soil, and sand – some of which are usable resources for humans.

#### **Spring Theme: Spring into Life Cycles** (*Growth & Development: Life Cycle Events*)

Students will explore the life cycles of insects, amphibians, and mammals in and around a seasonal pool.

**Science 2.1** – The duration and timing of life cycle events such as reproduction and longevity vary across organisms and species.

### Option 2: Serpents Trail Stroll (2 miles, 3 hrs.)

(*Geography of the Grand Valley, The Grand Valley: Early Settlers*)

Students will join a ranger on a hike down the Historic Serpents Trail to get a bird's-eye view of the Grand Valley and gain a better understanding of its landforms and geography. During the hike, students will use maps to locate landforms in the Grand Valley and learn about the park's history.

**Social Studies G.1** – Use various types of geographic tools to develop spatial thinking.

**Social Studies H.2** – People in the past influence the development and interaction of different communities or regions.

### Option 3: Activity Stations and Walks (Choose 3)

Students will participate in 3 different activity stations which include short hikes, games, and hands-on activities near the Saddlehorn Picnic Area.

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

Saddlehorn Picnic Area, 1 hour

Through games and explorations students will learn to look at rocks like geologists. They will discover how the three types of rocks form and change throughout the rock cycle.

**Science 3.1** – Earth's materials can be broken down and/or combined into different materials such as rocks, minerals, rock cycle, formation of soil, and sand – some of which are usable resources for humans.

#### **B. Looking at Landforms** (*Geography of the Grand Valley*)

Window Rock Trail, 1 hour, 1 mile (round trip)

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

**Science 3.1** – Earth's materials can be broken down and/or combined into different materials such as rocks, minerals, rock cycle, formation of soil and sand – some of which are usable resources for humans.

**Social Studies G.1** – Use various types of geographic tools to develop spatial thinking.

#### **C. From Utes to Cowboy Boots** (*The Grand Valley: Early Settlers*)

Book Cliffs View, 1 hour, 1 mile (round trip)

Students will go on a short walk to learn about the history of the Grand Valley and Colorado National Monument. While exploring historic artifacts and photos students will gain a better understanding of what life was like for the area's earliest residents.

**Social Studies H.1** – Develop an understanding of how people view, construct and interpret history.

**Social Studies H.2** – People in the past influence the development and interaction of different communities or regions.

#### **D. Insect Investigation** (*Growth & Development: Life Cycle Events*)

Saddlehorn Picnic Area, 1 hour

Through games and observations students will investigate the life cycles of insects.

**Science 2.1** – The duration and timing of life cycle events such as reproduction and longevity vary across organisms and species.