



Education Programs

Park Ranger Programs in Your Classroom

National Parks and Education

National Park Service sites are places where history was made. They are canyons and deserts, where geological processes have been played out eon after eon. They are historic trails, over which pioneers migrated and intermingled and resettled. They are monuments to civil rights leaders, where the lessons of cultural heritage are real and vivid. They are seashores and preserves, where a million forms of life offer daily lessons in biology, botany, evolution and survival amidst an endangered ecosystem. The national parks, in essence, help textbooks and lesson plans come to life.

Visiting Your Classroom

Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS is a 1,600 acre working cattle ranch. The park was established to tell the story of the open range cattle era in American history.

However, the history of early day ranching is not all that is being preserved here at the ranch. The habitats that comprised the ranch in the late 1800s are also intact. These habitats provide environments for many species of plants and animals to live.

Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS has initiated an outreach education program, bringing to area classrooms programs designed to meet Montana State Curriculum Standards.



Left: Students participating in the Photo Explore program. Right: Park Ranger with students during Native Games program.

All programs are *free* of charge to our local community schools.

Each program incorporates a variety of learning styles so that students may assimilate information using their preferred learning style. All of the programs contain hands-on activities, so we ask that you limit the size of the group to one classroom or a maximum of 30 students.

We are happy to do multiple programs to accommodate more than one class. The programs generally last from 45 minutes to one hour.

These programs will be offered Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from November through April. Sign up to have a park ranger come to your classroom to present one of our curriculum based education programs.

We hope the classroom experience will encourage you to bring your students to Grant-Kohrs Ranch to experience and utilize this valuable resource as part of your teaching curriculum.

If you are interested in scheduling a program please contact Lori Jensen, at 846-2070 ext. 230 or email at lori_jensen@nps.gov.

Indian Education Programs



Waste Not

In this exciting new lesson for 4th -6th grades, students will

- Identify the parts of a buffalo that are used by Native Americans and what they are used for.
- Recognize that there is great diversity among the 12 tribal nations of Montana.
- Differentiate trade values and simulate trading with other “tribes.”

By viewing several authentic Native American artifacts, students will learn what the artifacts were made from and used for. They will then play the “Make a moccasin trading game.” In this fun, interactive activity, students will have to communicate and trade with other “tribes” to get all of the necessary parts to make a pair of moccasins.

MT OPI Indian Education Essential Understandings :

Essential Understanding 1

There is great diversity among the 12 tribal Nations of Montana in their languages, cultures, histories and governments. Each Nation has a distinct and unique cultural heritage that contributes to modern Montana.

Essential Understanding 2

There is a great diversity among individual American Indians as identity is developed, defined and redefined by entities, organizations and people. A continuum of Indian identity, unique to each individual, ranges from assimilated to traditional. There is no generic Indian.

MT Standards for Social Studies:

Content Standard 6 -

Students demonstrate an understanding of the impact of human interaction and cultural diversity on societies.

Native Americans Then and Now

In this thought provoking new lesson for 5th – 8th grades, students will

- List at least three historic characteristics of 5 different Montana tribes.
- Define stereotype and list 3 stereotypes of Native Americans
- Compare and contrast Native Americans with Americans of other ethnicities in today’s society.

In a group activity, students will place the appropriate historic characteristics with Montana tribes. Through discussion, they will learn what stereotypes are and that there are stereotypes about Native Americans today. Next, they will take a “quiz” to learn about their own beliefs. The lesson will close with another group activity where students will learn about current Native people and report what they learn to the class.

MT OPI Indian Education Essential Understandings :

Essential Understanding 2

There is a great diversity among individual American Indians as identity is developed, defined and redefined by entities, organizations and people. A continuum of Indian identity, unique to each individual, ranges from assimilated to traditional. There is no generic Indian.

MT Standards for Social Studies:

Content Standard 4-

Students demonstrate an understanding of the effects of time, continuity, and change on historical and future perspectives and relationships.

Content Standard 6 -

Students demonstrate an understanding of the impact of human interaction and cultural diversity on societies.

Favorite Education Programs

Brand Bingo

K-2nd Grade

30-40 minutes

What is a brand? Why do ranchers brand their livestock? How do you read a brand?

- Students will learn what a brand is and why ranchers brand their cattle and horses.
- With the use of the brand board, students will learn how to read brands.

- To reinforce their brand reading abilities students will play a game of BRAND bingo.



Social Studies Standards

Content Standard 4 – Students demonstrate an understanding of the effects of time, continuity, and change on historical and future perspectives and relationships.

Photo Explore

1st-3rd Grade

30-45 minutes

What can photos of the past tell us? What will photos we take today tell people 100 years from now?

- Students will distinguish the past from the present through photographs.
- Students will learn from photos how people's lives have changed over time.

- Students will analyze historic artifact photos and modern photos to see if they can match modern tools with tools from the past.



Social Studies Standards

Content Standard 1 – Students access, synthesize, and evaluate information to communicate and apply social studies knowledge to real world situations.

Content Standard 4 – Students demonstrate an understanding of the effects of time, continuity, and change on historical and future perspectives and relationships.

Where's the Beef?

2nd-4th Grade

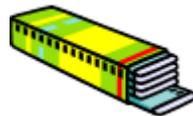
45-60 minutes

Cattle have many uses besides food. Many items we use every day are made with beef by-products.

- Students will learn how people use and benefit from cattle every day.



Through hands-on activities students will learn some of the everyday household items that are made with cattle by-products.



- Students will learn that almost the entire beef animal can be used to benefit people in some way; similar to how the American Indian used all parts of the bison.

Science Standards

(5) Identifies interactions among technology, science, and society.

Social Studies Standards

Content Standard 5 – Students make informed decisions based on an understanding of the economic principles of production, distribution, exchange, and consumption.



Habitats

2nd-4th Grade

45-60 minutes

All living things are dependent on their habitats.

- Through inquiry based discussion students will learn the four components of a habitat.
- Through a hands-on activity students will learn the four different habitats of Grant-Kohrs Ranch and learn some plants and animals that live in each habitat.

- Through a group activity students will learn what would happen if an animal is unable to find all the parts of its habitat and why we need to care for the habitats around us.



Science Standards

(3) Identifies attributes of living (biotic) things and non-living (abiotic) objects, including classification based on similarities and differences in instinctual, inherited, and learned behaviors; basic structure and function, and life cycle processes including energy needs of each system

Cowboy Gear

This hands-on inquiry based program will give students an awareness of what a cowboy's life was like during the frontier cattle era.

- Students will gain an awareness of cowboy life by studying authentic cowboy clothing and equipment.
- Students will learn the cost of equipment and clothing in the 1890s, and the importance of

3rd-5th Grade

properly managing wages so cowboys were able to purchase equipment necessary for their job.



Social Studies Standards

Content Standard 1 – Students access, synthesize, and evaluate information to

45-60 minutes

communicate and apply social studies knowledge to real world situations.

Content Standard 5 – Students make informed decisions based on an understanding of the economic principles of production, distribution, exchange, and consumption.

Content Standard 6 – Students demonstrate an understanding of the impact of human interaction and cultural diversity on societies.

A Brand is Forever

For at least 4,000 years, man has marked cattle with red-hot branding irons to prove his ownership. There is a true story behind every brand, frequently a tragedy, a comedy, a tender romance, more often a proclamation of hope.

- Students will learn the history of branding
- Students will learn to read, understand and identify various brands.

4th-5th Grade

- Students will have the opportunity to create their own cattle brands.



45-60 minutes

Social Studies Standards

Content Standard 1 – Students access, synthesize, and evaluate information to communicate and apply social studies knowledge to real world situations.

Content Standard 4 – Students demonstrate an understanding of the effects of time, continuity, and change on historical and future perspectives and relationships.

Preserving the Past

Preserving our historic collection of artifacts is an important part of protecting our history. Through hands-on group activity, students will learn five methods of preserving artifacts.

- Students will describe how important artifacts are to our history

5th-6th Grade

- Students will demonstrate 5 activities simulating ways artifacts are protected.
- Students will identify hazards to artifacts such as insects, climate, etc.



45-60 minutes

Social Studies Standards

Content Standard 1 – Students access, synthesize, and evaluate information to communicate and apply social studies knowledge to real world situations.

Content Standard 4 – Students demonstrate an understanding of the effects of time, continuity, and change on historical and future perspectives and relationships.

Native Games

The old traditional games were important to every tribe's survival. They taught

- appreciation for the natural world,
- connections with self and spirit,
- connections with community.

All ages of people played two general types of games. Physical games were important for survival by providing endurance and strength. Games of intuition helped with observation

skills and skills of the senses.

When you schedule a native game program students will be taught 2-3 games. There are a variety of games for students of all ages.

Social Studies Standards

Content Standard 4 – Students demonstrate an understanding of the effects of time, continuity, and change



45-60 minutes

on historical and future perspectives and relationships.

Content Standard 6 – Students demonstrate an understanding of the impact of human interaction and cultural diversity on societies.

Science Standards

(5) Identifies interactions among technology, science, and society; relate how science is utilized by Montana American Indians



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The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Further Educator Opportunities

The mission of the National Park Service is to preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.

There are many programs and opportunities for educators at Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site.

- Outreach Education Programs
- Annual Teacher Workshop
- Traveling Trunk
- Lesson Plans on our Website
- Field Trips to the Ranch
- Teacher Ranger Teacher Program

