

Field Trip Preparation

San Antonio Missions National Historical Park

Lunch

- If using the picnic area at Mission San Jose, trash cans are available for your use. Please be sure all trash/recycling is placed in the correct bin.
- If using the Mission San Jose picnic area, be aware that there are a few small trees, but shade in the area is limited.
- There are other parks in the area that have covered areas and can accommodate 100 plus students. Mission County Park is local and you can reserve the pavilion: <https://parks.bexar.org/>
- Please do not plan to eat in the courtyard outside of the visitor center or inside the mission complex

What am I Forgetting?

- Souvenir money, if applicable. The Mission bookstore requests that no more than 10 students enter at a time. Please have chaperones monitor students while in store.
- Challenge your students to make the field trip a ‘Green Field trip’. Incorporate the “7 principles of Leave No trace” into your field trip planning. See the Green Field Trip Challenge guide in this packet for more information.
- Students may bring backpacks on the trip, but please do not bring backpacks into the bookstore.
- Inclement weather: It is extremely rare for the park to be closed due to the weather. Programs are an outdoor event which will take place rain or shine; however, if there is lightening in the area, programs will take place indoors. Please call if you feel you need to reschedule.

Field Trip Checklist

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For the Teacher

- First Aid Kit and student medical supplies, if applicable
- Emergency contact file with numbers and student health information
- Weather related accessories: water bottles, sunscreen, sunglasses,
- Encourage students to wear comfortable, closed toe shoes, to avoid our insect friends.
- If planning to have students complete activities at the Missions:
 - Pencils
 - Clipboards (please don't use mission wall/wells to write on)
 - Extra copies of activity
 - Camera
 - School Name tags (optional); sometimes we have more than 1 school visiting at a time. A school name tag allows park staff to quickly recognize students in your group.
- Lunches, if applicable.

For the Student

- A good attitude.
- Thoughtful questions.
- A (reusable) water bottle, sunglasses, and a hat.
- It is a good idea to wear closed toe shoes, like sneakers, to the park. Wear comfortable walking clothes.
- Lunch, if your trip requires one (Remember the Green Challenge if your class is participating)
- Souvenir money, if applicable.

What should I wear? It is recommended that teachers, chaperones, and students wear closed toe shoes to protect from insect friends, and comfortable clothes for walking. Depending on the season, water is very important for a great day at the park; we encourage the use of reusable water bottles. Sunglasses, hats, and sunscreen may also be necessary.

Green Field Trip Challenge

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Green Principles:

Plan Ahead and Prepare: Texas has extreme temperatures. Be sure to bring water, wear a hat, and use sunscreen.

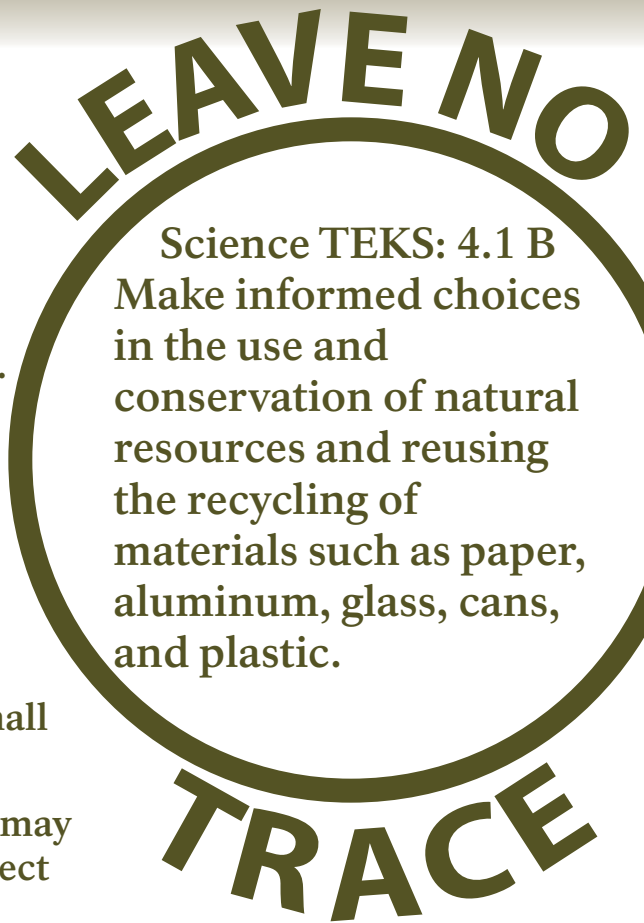
Travel on Durable Surfaces: Each mission has a paved path for you to walk on. Watch your step. Be aware that there could be wildlife and fire ants.

Dispose of Waste Properly: Think before you throw. Always be sure to place your trash in the correct place. Recycling bins can be found around all of the mission sites.

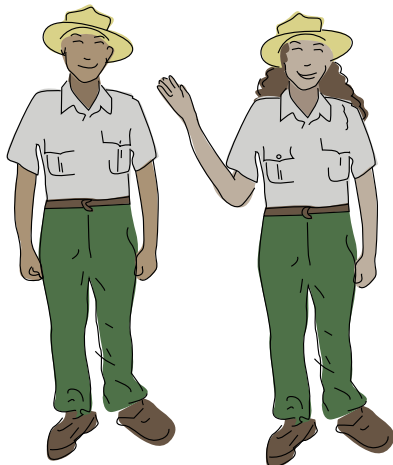
Leave What You Find: Leave nature and artifacts the way that you found them.

Respect Wildlife: You may see birds, bugs, and small animals. Observe them, but give them space.

Respect Other Visitors: This is a public park. You may see people having fun or worshipping. Please respect their space.



How can we help save the planet on our field trip?



Great question! Bring a reusable water bottle and fill it at any of the four missions. Make sure any printing is double sided. Ask your bus driver to not let the bus idle. The Visitor Center is air conditioned and your driver is welcome inside. Bring water, a hat, and use sunscreen. Dispose of your waste in trash and recycling recepticals.

Discuss the 7 principles of Leave No Trace with your students: <https://lnt.org/why/7-principles/>