



## Teacher Checklist for Hands-on History Classes

The excitement and adventure of an Armand Bayou Nature Center field trip begins with you! Before your visit, please look over the checklist below. We look forward to sharing the nature center with you!

### The week before the trip:

- ✓ Introduce 1895 pioneer farm life to your students through the *Farm Pre-Trip Quiz*. (The activity can be downloaded from ABNC's website.)
- ✓ You may wish to further prepare for you visit with one or more of these activities.
  - Read about life around 1900.
  - Talk about your students daily activities and the technology those activities require. Ask them what they have that a 1900-era farm would not.
- ✓ If you plan to participate in an enrichment activity, make arrangements to use cameras, prepare journals, and/or brainstorm questions. (See "During the trip" for details.)
- ✓ Call the nature center to confirm the number of students and chaperones that will be attending (281-474-2551 x13).
- ✓ Remind students to wear appropriate clothing and closed-toed shoes.
- ✓ Review the ABNC website's field trip tips:  
[www.abnc.org/educational-programs/field-trip-planner.html](http://www.abnc.org/educational-programs/field-trip-planner.html).

### During the trip:

- ✓ Students will be divided into small groups of 15 or fewer students. You may wish to establish groups before you arrive.
- ✓ Be aware of your surroundings. The nature center is a generally safe place, but participants should look before they touch or step.
- ✓ To make your visit even more meaningful, you may incorporate an enrichment activity into your field trip. Some ideas are:
  - Write and draw about your observations. You may create your own journals or use clipboards and paper.
  - Take pictures of the farm and wildlife with digital cameras.
  - Ask questions! Since students often forget their questions in the excitement of being away from school, it is helpful to write their questions down before the trip. You might brainstorm a class question list or may have each student write a question on a note card.
  - If you plan to spend time at the nature center after your class, stop by the admissions building and check out a guided trail hike sheet so you and your students can learn more about the center's wildlife.



### After the trip:

- ✓ Ask students to describe their favorite parts of the trip and to recall some facts they learned. Revisit topics from the pre-trip activity, as you see fit.
- ✓ Complete the post-trip activity: *Farm Resources*. (Download the activity from ABNC's website.)
- ✓ You may extend students' learning by completing an activity, such as the following.
  - Write about how your lives would be different if you lived in 1895 on a pioneer farm like the one you visited at Armand Bayou Nature Center. You might pretend you are a child living on a farm and write about a day in your life.
  - Use photos, drawings, and journal notes from the field trip to create a slide show or poster about your field trip.
  - Review your pre-trip quizzes. Talk about what you learned.

