

# 2011-2012 SCHOOL PROGRAMS AT WESTCAVE PRESERVE

Westcave Preserve is a natural treasure of the Texas Hill Country possessing unique, majestic beauty and ecological diversity. Located adjacent to the Pedernales River in Southwest Travis County, this 75-acre gem has been providing educational experiences for Central Texas students since 1974.

A field trip to Westcave Preserve combines the opportunity to observe the plants, animals and geology of the Edwards Plateau with a hike into a cool, sheltered canyon of lush plant life. At the head of the canyon, students will be awed by a 40-foot waterfall tumbling over fern-covered travertine to the emerald pool below.

Programs are tailored to the age and interest of your group. Teachers may choose from one of our standard programs or request a customized program that meets the needs of your group.

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## PROGRAM OFFERINGS

### THE WESTCAVE STORY (ALL AGES)

Students learn about Westcave's plants, animals, hydrology and geology and witness the importance of environmental conservation by hearing how Westcave recovered from overuse.

**Program Length:** 3 hours. **Fee:** \$5 per student.

### ANIMAL AND BOTANICAL MARVELS (ALL AGES)

In Animals and Botanical Marvels students learn about the wildlife and plants of the Preserve, observe the Preserve's distinct habitats, and investigate the Preserve's biodiversity through a biological survey.

**Program Length:** 4 hours. **Fee:** \$5 per student.

### WATER: LIFEBLOOD OF THE EARTH (3RD GRADE AND UP)

Water: Lifeblood of the Earth examines our most precious resource. Students learn about the hydrologic (water) cycle, groundwater aquifers, nonpoint-source pollution and rainwater harvesting.

**Program Length:** 3 hours. **Fee:** \$5 per student.

### FIELD STUDY PROGRAM (GRADES 6-8)

This innovative program offers students the opportunity to be field scientists. Each student is given a field journal and issued a field backpack with supplies needed for their investigations. A classroom pre-visit helps to prepare students and post-visit curriculum guides students through a discussion of their results.

**Program Length:** 4-6 hours. **Fee:** \$5 per student

### REGISTRATION

Advance registration is required for all school programs.

To register visit our website at [www.westcave.org](http://www.westcave.org), select "School Programs" from the menu, and then click on the "Schedule a Program" button. You'll be able to view a calendar of available dates, as well as a description of our programming options. Complete and submit the online registration form, and you will receive a confirmation within 48-hours.

If it is necessary to cancel your reservation, please call at least two weeks in advance.



Visit [www.westcave.org](http://www.westcave.org) for additional information on:

- Field Trip Preparation
- Program Learning Objectives
- TEKS Correlations
- Pre- and Post-visit Curriculum