

# Fossil Rim Wildlife Center's Upcoming Events for Homeschoolers



*For more information on these events or for planning a special event for YOUR homeschool group, please email us at [homeschool@fossilrim.org](mailto:homeschool@fossilrim.org), or call the Homeschool Education Coordinator at 254/898-4216*

## January 2009

- 1-12-09** *Animal Fashions* Class + Tour 10:00-2:30ish. Investigate the different costumes animals wear on their bodies: from an insect's exoskeleton to the feathers of a bird or a turtle's shell. After this morning class, share a picnic lunch at the Overlook, then take a guided tour of Fossil Rim.
- 1-26-09** *Cheetah!* Class + Tour. 10:00-2:30ish. Spend the morning learning about the fastest land mammal, the cheetah, and Fossil Rim's conservation efforts on behalf of this magnificent animal. Share a picnic lunch, then take a guided tour of Fossil Rim.

## February 2009

- 2-9-09** *Colors by Nature (Exploring Natural Dyes)* Class + Tour. 10:00-2:30ish. Cochineal is a scale insect found on prickly pear cactus that is used to produce a natural dye. It was used historically as a clothing dye, and is still used as a food dye today. We will talk about Cochineal and other natural dyes, and use Cochineal to dye bandanas in our morning class. After a picnic lunch at the Overlook, we will take a guided tour of Fossil Rim
- 2-23-09** *Robin Hood Day Camp!!!* 9:00-4:30ish. Based on Howard Pyle's classic, *The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood*, this program combines elements of several shorter programs. Topics include European Red Deer, *Horns or Antlers?*, archery, poaching, *How to Catch a Rhino or Other Wild Creature*, camouflage, and a tour of Fossil Rim.

## March 2009

- 3-9-09** *Conservation in Action Day!* 9:00-2:30ish. Learn about different ways you can conserve natural resources; participate in an on-site conservation project, then take a guided tour of Fossil Rim.
- 3-23-09** *Fossil Dig* Class + Tour 10:00-2:30ish. In the morning, take a bus down to our Fossil Pit and dig

for marine fossils! Share a picnic lunch at the Overlook, then take a guided tour of Fossil Rim's current, non-marine residents!!!

### **April 2009**

- 4-6-09** *"Go Ahead, Make My Day!"* Class + Tour. 10:00-2:30ish. Investigate the process of enrichment for animals in captivity. A look at how Fossil Rim keeps its animals happy and entertained. Participants will make enrichment items for various animals during our morning class, then share a picnic lunch, followed by a guided tour of Fossil Rim
- 4-20-09** *Nature Journaling* Event 10:00-4:30. This event will combine a nature journaling class, an art class, a picnic lunch, and a tour of Fossil Rim. In the morning, we will learn 4 different nature journaling techniques. After a picnic lunch, we will have a basic art class, followed by driving to specific sites within Fossil Rim to practice our Nature Journaling skills!
- 4-27-09** *African Safari Day Camp* 9:00-4:30. Learn about the geography of Africa and where our African animals come from, make a Savannah Field Guide, discuss Savannah Ecology, learn about Cheetahs, discover the difference between grazers and browsers, and take a guided tour of Fossil Rim Wildlife Center! *Please bring a sack lunch.*

### **May 2009**

- 5-18-09** *Fossil Dig* Class + Tour 10:00-2:30ish. In the morning, take a bus down to our Fossil Pit and dig for marine fossils! Share a picnic lunch at the Overlook, then take a guided tour of Fossil Rim's current, non-marine residents!!!

### **June 2009**

- 6-8-09** *Conservation in Action Day!* 9:00-2:30ish. Learn about different ways you can conserve natural resources; participate in an on-site conservation project, then take a guided tour of Fossil Rim.
- 6-22-09** *Native Plant Scavenger Hunt* + Tour of Fossil Rim 10:00-2:30ish. Use our Native Plant Flip Book to identify the native plants along our nature trails in the morning, share a picnic lunch, then tour Fossil Rim.

### **July 2009**

- 7-13-09** *Colors by Nature (Exploring Natural Dyes)* Class + Tour. 10:00-2:30ish. Cochineal is a scale insect found on prickly pear cactus that is used to produce a natural dye. It was used historically as a clothing dye, and is still used as a food dye today. We will talk about Cochineal and other natural dyes, and use Cochineal to dye bandanas in our morning class. After a picnic lunch at the Overlook, we will take a guided tour of Fossil Rim.
- 7-27-09** *Amazing Arthropods (Insects, Spiders, and Scorpions, Oh My!)* Class + Tour. 10:00-2:30ish. Learn about insects, spiders, and other arthropods, with a special focus on Texas natives. Picnic lunch at the Overlook at 12:00, followed by a guided tour of Fossil Rim.

### **August 2009**

- 8-10-09** *"Go Ahead, Make My Day!"* Class + Tour. 10:00-2:30ish. Investigate the process of enrichment for animals in captivity. A look at how Fossil Rim keeps its animals happy and entertained. Participants will make enrichment items for various animals during our

morning class, then share a picnic lunch, followed by a guided tour of Fossil Rim.

## September 2009

**9-21-09 *Conservation in Action Day!*** 9:00-2:30ish. Learn about different ways you can conserve natural resources; participate in an on-site conservation project, then take a guided tour of Fossil Rim.

**9-29-09 *Nature Journaling*** Event 10:00-4:30. This event will combine a nature journaling class, an art class, a picnic lunch, and a tour of Fossil Rim. In the morning, we will learn 4 different nature journaling techniques. After a picnic lunch, we will have a basic art class, followed by driving to specific sites within Fossil Rim to practice our Nature Journaling skills!

## October 2009

**10-6-09 *Robin Hood Day Camp!!!***9:00-4:30ish. Based on Howard Pyle's classic, *The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood*, this program combines elements of several shorter programs. Topics include European Red Deer, *Horns or Antlers?*, archery, poaching, *How to Catch a Rhino or Other Wild Creature*, camouflage, and a tour of Fossil Rim.

**10-13-09 *Species in Peril: Wolf Conservation.*** Class + Tour. 10:00-2:30ish. Learn about Fossil Rim's wolves, about wolf conservation efforts, and what you can do to make a difference! 2-hour morning class, followed by a picnic lunch (remember to bring one!), and a guided tour of Fossil Rim.

**10-19-09 *Fossil Dig*** Class + Tour 10:00-2:30ish. In the morning, take a bus down to our Fossil Pit and dig for marine fossils! Share a picnic lunch at the Overlook, then take a guided tour of Fossil Rim's current, non-marine residents!!!

**10-21-09 *Dissection Lab*** 9:00-12:00. Think your kids need to know how to do a dissection, but don't want the mess on *your* kitchen table? Let Fossil Rim take care of the mess by doing a morning dissection lab and class about light, color and lenses. Since it is "Discount Wednesday," you may opt to take advantage of the savings and drive through the park in your own vehicle, at your own pace, after the class.

## November 2009

**11-10-09 *Nature Hike*** Class + Tour. 10:00-2:30ish. Take a guided hike with a naturalist and learn about some of our native flora and fauna in the morning, share a picnic lunch, then take a guided tour of Fossil Rim.

**11-16-09 *African Safari Day Camp*** 9:00-4:30. Learn about the geography of Africa and where our African animals come from, make a Savannah Field Guide, discuss Savannah Ecology, learn about Cheetahs, discover the difference between grazers and browsers, and take a guided tour of Fossil Rim Wildlife Center! *Please bring a sack lunch.*

## December 2009

**12-8-09 *Colors by Nature (Exploring Natural Dyes)*** Class + Tour. 10:00-2:30ish. Cochineal is a scale insect found on prickly pear cactus that is used to produce a natural dye. It

was used historically as a clothing dye, and is still used as a food dye today. We will talk about Cochineal and other natural dyes, and use Cochineal to dye bandanas in our morning class. After a picnic lunch at the Overlook, we will take a guided tour of Fossil Rim.

**12-14-09 “Go Ahead, Make My Day!”** Class + Tour. 10:00-2:30ish. Investigate the process of enrichment for animals in captivity. A look at how Fossil Rim keeps its animals happy and entertained. Participants will make enrichment items for various animals during our morning class, then share a picnic lunch, followed by a guided tour of Fossil Rim.

*For Up-to-the-Minute information on upcoming events, reports on past events, educational articles, and student activities, sign up for our monthly Homeschool Enrichment E-zine by emailing us at [homeschool@fossilrim.org](mailto:homeschool@fossilrim.org).*