



## **A WEEK-LONG TRAVELING DAYCAMP**

**Dates: June 12-16, 2017**

**Theme: Geology of Central Texas**

**Destinations: Wonder World, Longhorn Caverns, Inks Lake, Enchanted Rock, Pedernales State Park, Bastrop State Park, Austin Nature and Wildlife Center**

**Ages: 8 and Up**

**Price: \$385**

**Please note that specific details within the itinerary may be subject to change.**

**Rocks and Rivers** is our most physically active camp. We'll explore the rich and fascinating geology of central Texas by climbing all over it and splashing through the rivers that helped form it! In this camp we travel to San Marcos, Longhorn Caverns, and Enchanted Rock. We learn from local geologists and Texas experts. We cool off in Inks Lake, Barton Springs, Bastrop State Park, and the Pedernales River. If you're an outdoor fan who loves to get wet, then **Rocks and Rivers** is the camp for you!

Expedition Leaders Amanda Akers and Russell Baker are certified educators with extensive experience with both traveling and kids (and traveling *with* kids). Amanda handles logistics and will keep everything running smoothly. Russell is like the captain of our ship. He drives the bus, guides us through lessons, and brings us all together as a team.

Texas Expeditions have a 1:10 adult/kid ratio and we travel with teen-aged Expedition Assistants with CPR and lifeguard training. The Expedition Ed Bus is a mobile hotspot so kids can stay connected and keep parents posted on our adventures throughout the day.



### Enchanted Rock | Pedernales Falls

To appreciate Texas geology, we'll need to play around on it. We'll start early at Enchanted Rock so we can make it to the top before the Texas sun gets too hot. Park rangers will guide us with lessons on how the giant mass of granite was formed and the unique and surprising wildlife it hosts. After Enchanted Rock we'll head over to Pedernales Falls State Park for a picnic and some wading in the Pedernales River.



### Wonder World | Aquarena Springs | San Marcos River

From the top of the Tejas Observation Tower at Wonder World, we can get a clear picture of the Balcones Escarpment and how distinctly it shapes the land. We'll visit the Wonder Cave, formed by an earthquake, and take the Mystery Mountain Tour. And then, "just for the fun of it", visit the Anti-Gravity house (purposely scheduled before lunch). The afternoon will be spent at Texas State University's Aquarena Center, where we'll take a glass-bottomed boat tour of the Headwaters of the San Marcos River. Then we'll really cool off in the refreshing San Marcos River.



Day 3 / June 14

## Texas Memorial Museum | Austin Nature & Science Center | Barton Springs

Wednesday starts at the Texas Natural Science Center at UT's Texas Memorial Museum. We'll explore the history of Texas geology in the museum's Hall of Geology and Paleontology. We'll picnic at Zilker Park and then spend some time at Austin Nature and Science Center. They have some great exhibits, very cool rescued animals, and an awesome Trade Counter where kids can trade in found rocks, fossils, and other natural items they've collected. Finally, we'll jump in the very refreshing water of Barton Springs Pool.



Day 4 / June 15

## Colorado River | Bastrop State Park and Pool

We'll start today at the Colorado River in Bastrop where we'll learn about the very different geology east of the Balcones Fault. Then we'll head over the Bastrop State Park for our service project. Park rangers will teach us about the park and the effects of the recent wildfires. Afterwards, we'll pitch in to help around the park, moving debris, picking up trash, or doing whatever rangers need help with. After a picnic lunch we'll get in some playtime at the park and some swim time at their great pool.



## Longhorn Caverns | Inks Lake

Today's expedition takes us to Longhorn Caverns. Guided by the park's geologist, we'll discover how the cave was formed and what makes it so special and unique. Afterwards, we're off to Inks Lake where we'll meet with another great park ranger and do a bit of exploring. Finally we'll head to the lake where we can relax in the calm cool waters. Inks Lake is a long trek, so we'll be heading home later than usual today. Don't worry; we'll make sure the kids can make it until dinnertime by stopping for ice cream on the trip home!

# WHAT TO BRING

## Clothes

You will get wet every day during Rocks and Rivers! Each day you should pack a swimsuit, towel, and some flip-flops or river shoes.

## Food

The Expedition Ed Bus travels with a big cooler for storing lunches, a 5 gallon jug of ice-cold water, and healthy snacks for the road. You'll need to bring a sack lunch and a water bottle every day.

## Extras

It's Texas in the summer, y'all. Please make sure to pack bug spray and sunscreen. As you can see from the itinerary, we stay pretty busy, but campers may want to bring a journal or book for the rare downtime. A camera is always a good idea.

## Technology

Expedition Education likes to keep parents posted on our adventures as we go. Please feel free to bring your smart phone or tablet. However, be aware that we don't allow campers to use technology for gaming or personal social media during camp hours. Also, please understand that we can't be responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items.