

Connecting Teachers to America's Best Idea: What Arkansas's National Parks Mean to Me!



Teacher workshop at Buffalo National River

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Curriculum-based Education

Low

High

Teacher Professional Development

Low

High



Little Rock Central High School



Former Visitor Center

Little Rock Central High School NHS Visitor Center



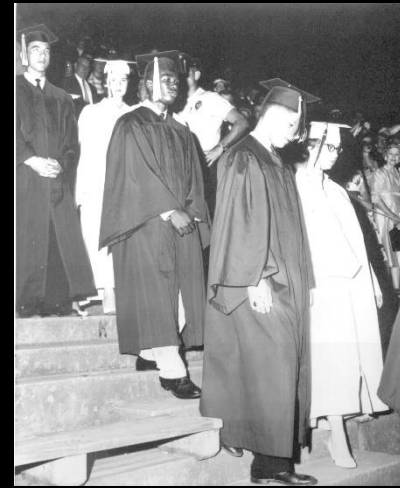
Exhibits inside Visitor Center





Little Rock Nine and Daisy Bates

National guardsmen arrive in 1957



Little Rock Nine Ernest Green at Graduation

Hazel and Elisabeth



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Teacher workshop at White River National Refuge

Grant Goal

- Improves ability to serve and relate to underserved and under-engaged audiences.
- Bring new visitors to national parks.
- Increased expression of interest and intent to visit in the future.
- Awareness of the importance of stewardship and interest in public lands.
- Audience beyond the immediate participants learn about the project.
- New partnerships and continued sustainable partnerships.
- Ongoing engagement and fostered stewardship.



Project Goal



Kimble and Debbie at Buffalo National River

- New park stewards
 - Teachers and their students
 - Other teachers
- Engage teachers in a non-traditional program/workshop
 - Skills to integrate national parks into their curriculum
- Introduction and/or Reintroduction to NPS
- Collaborate with other parks (and federal agencies)
- Use professors and/or historians as experts

Partners

- 7 NPS units in Arkansas
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife: White River National Wildlife Refuge
- University of Arkansas at Little Rock
- University of Arkansas Community College at Hope
- Arkansas Council for Social Studies
- Jefferson National Park Association
- Clinton Presidential Library
- Teachers



7 NPS units in Arkansas

- Little Rock Central High School NHS
- Hot Springs National Park
- Arkansas Post National Memorial
- Fort Smith NHS
- Buffalo National River
- William Jefferson Clinton Birthplace NHS
- Pea Ridge National Military Park



Project-at-a-Glance

- Summer 2011; 16 teachers; 2 T-R-T's
- Weeklong road trip beginning at Little Rock Central High School NHS; ending at Buffalo National River
- Curriculum-based Education program offered at each site



Program at Arkansas Post NM



Teachers at Hot Springs NP



Lisa at Fort Smith NHS

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Itinerary

Driver, Erica Thompkins 501.295.2501

Sunday, July 31, 2011 – Teachers meet at **Little Rock Central High School (NHS)** at 10:00am.

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 10:00am -11:30am | Dr. John A. Kirk, University of Arkansas at Little Rock |
| 11:30am – 12noon | Exhibits |
| 12noon – 1:30pm | Lunch Clinton Presidential Library |
| 1:45pm- 3:00pm | Using Historical Places to Teach Social Studies & National Historic Sites programs |
| 3:15pm – 3:30pm | Board Arkansas Destinations |
| 3:30pm | depart Little Rock and head to Hot Springs (58 miles)
Watch Hot Springs NP Video |
| 4:45pm | Arrive at Staybridge (Group: EG5/\$115.99)
103 Lookout Circle
Hot Springs, AR 71913 |
| 6:00pm | Dinner at Fisherman's Wharf in Hot Springs, AR
After dinner, <i>Circle Talk</i> with Lee Standing Bear Moore |



Clinton Presidential Library



White River National Wildlife Refuge

Tuesday, August 2, 2011

8:45am Board the bus and head to St. Charles, Arkansas (40 miles)

10:00am – 12noon

White River National Wildlife Refuge

Off Hwy 1 in St. Charles, Arkansas

Marlon_mowdy@fws.gov

10:00 – 10:15 Introduction to Environmental Education Room

10:15 – 10:45 A/V Program on White River NWR's Operation

10:45 – 11:00 Break

11:00 – 11:30 Scavenger Hunt Survey

11:30-12noon Q&A

12noon - 1:00pm

Lunch in the Auditorium

1:00pm

Depart St. Charles and head to Arkansas Post (28 miles)

1:30pm – 3:30pm

Arkansas Post National Memorial

1741 Old Post Road

Gillett, AR 72055 (870-548-2207)

3:45pm

Board the bus and head to Fort Smith (258 miles)

6:00pm - 7:00pm

Stop for dinner

9:00pm

Arrive at Holiday Inn Fort Smith-City Center

6813 Phoenix Ave (\$98.86/EG2)

Fort Smith, AR 72901



Teachers at Arkansas Post NM

Thursday, August 4, 2011

8:15am Board the bus and head to Harrison (35 miles)

9:00am -1:00pm **Buffalo National River**
Tyler Bend Visitor Center
170 Ranger Road
St. Joe, AR 72675 (870) 439-2502
Joyce Umbach joyce_umbach@nps.gov
Day by the Buffalo Program

1:00pm -1:45pm Lunch (in Marshall, Arkansas)

1:45pm head back to Little Rock (140 miles)



At a homestead in Buffalo NR

Day by the Buffalo program



Funding

- This project cost about \$30,000.00

What were some of the cost
that you think we had to consider?

PMIS Funding

4 nights Lodging; 14 rooms at each Hotel	Lodging includes 25 teachers, education specialist, T-R-T, bus driver, and superintendent	1	Lump	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Transportation , chartered service	Arkansas Destinations, \$1100.00 per day	1	Each	\$5,500.00	\$5,500.00
Teacher-Ranger-Teacher stipend	local teacher will be hired to assist Education Specialist for the week	1	Each	\$600.00	\$600.00
Educational materials	27 copies of National Passport book, 27 copies of Redefining the Color Line, 27 copies of Conversations: William J Clinton from Hope to Harlem, 27 copies of Warriors Don't Cry, and other relevant literature and resources from each of the parks.	1	Lump	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Conference Registration	Dissemination, Participants can present at a local, state or national conference	1	Each	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Speaker Honorarium	Dr. John A. Kirk	1	Each	\$500.00	\$500.00
Speaker Honorarium	Journalist, Janis Kearney	1	Each	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Speaker Honorarium	Standing Bear	1	Each	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00

Partnering & Tools

- Jefferson National Park Association
 - In-kind donation
- Arkansas Council for Social Studies
 - Snacks and bottle water
- Tools
 - Square
 - Apple Pay
 - PayPal

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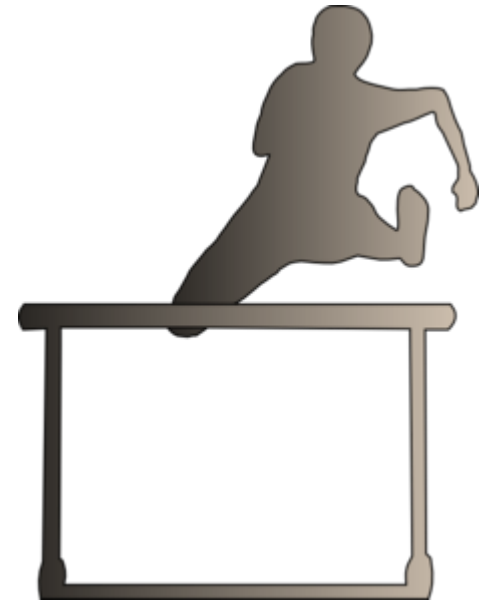
Success

- Teacher-Ranger-Teacher planning and logistics
- Time spent in specific parks (i.e. Buffalo NR)
- New park stewards
- Teachers
 - Evaluations
 - Diversity in participation
- New relationships formed by parks



Obstacles

- Time invested to promote/recruit for project!
- Weather
- Time spent in parks
- Stipends
- Hotel and transportation logistics



Valuable Lessons

- Collaboration
 - 21st Century Skills: Co-creation
 - Working with other parks does benefit NPS Mission.
 - Slowing things down so everyone gets to know one another (i.e. roles, teacher icebreaker, etc...)
 - We don't have to do it all - Teachers as parks stewards for workshops, conferences, etc...
- Partnerships
 - 21st Century Skills: Co-creation
 - You always learn something new about yourself and others
 - Be aware of the different levels of engagement
 - Have process for reporting back: collecting and distributing data



Questions

