

NO CHILD LEFT INSIDE

For the science links of MISD
From The Sibley Nature Center

September 2008



Mission Statement of The Sibley Nature Center

The mission of the Sibley Nature Center is to increase awareness of the natural and historical environment of the southern Llano Estacado through a broad range of interpretive programs and personal experience.

The Sibley Nature Center wishes to serve the MISD elementary schools as a resource for augmenting the new C-Scope curriculum. We especially encourage teachers to utilize our website, as well as coming to Sibley on field trips where students can experience the out-of-doors. The science coaches have distributed our list of suggested utilization of the website and possible field trips for the first 6 weeks of school.

If you have not received this list, or want more information, or to book a visit at your school, or to book a visit to Sibley, please email

Burr Williams at bwilliams@sibleynaturecenter.org



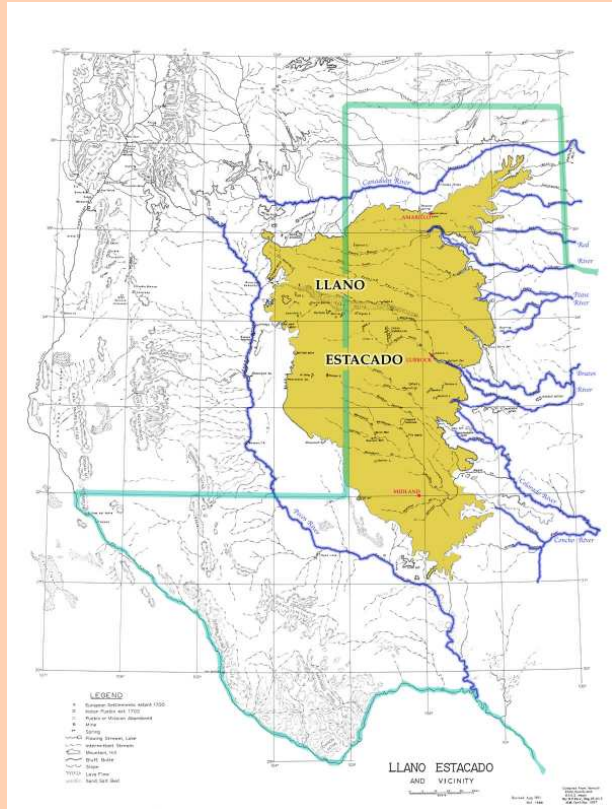
Visit our Virtual Trail.

On www.sibleynaturecenter.org's home page go to the second paragraph and click the blue underlined link and select any photoessay listed for the present month in all years to see what might be seen at the trail now.

Soon the cattails at the pond will be seeding out. Cattail roots taste like potatoes. The seed fluff was used to stuff life preservers in World War II. People around the world have used the leaves to make hats, canoes, and even the roofs of houses. Many species of birds are adapted to using a cattail marsh as their home.

The Sibley Nature Center teaches students and adults about the Llano Estacado. The Llano Estacado is a huge plateau or tableland. (The map to the right shows you where its boundaries are.) It has 8 major habitats. Click on the habitats button on our homepage to find an index to the habitats. Each habitat section has a number of essays and photoessays.

We believe that knowledge of one's home is the very basic level of patriotism. How can you love your home if you do not know about its history, landscape, flora, and fauna? Using local examples for scientific concepts helps students understand them better.



Why do roadrunners have black skin under their feathers? Why do they lift their feathers to expose the black skin? What other bird of the Llano Estacado also has black skin? What habitat do they prefer? Are they omnivores, carnivores, or herbivores? What is the physical adaptation that helps them be the best runners of all the birds? How do roadrunners interact with humans? Do you know a folk tale about them? What is their name in Spanish?

VIVA EL LLANO ESTACADO!