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Nature Area Programs at Wagner Ranch

NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES 4th Grade

This two-day educational adventure enhances 4th grade science and history standards, while focusing on the culture and contributions of the First People who inhabited Orinda.

Students are introduced to Native community roles, customs, and daily life.

- Participate in building a native house
- Enjoy storytelling and chants
- Weave tule mats and play Native games
- Make arrowheads and clapper sticks
- ☆ Harvest native plants for food and medicine
- Harvest, grind, leach, heat and sample acorns
- Prepare Yerba Buena tea
- ☼ Make brushes, rope, rock-lifters, baskets, and Native dolls







PIONEER DAYS - 5th Grade

This two-day program supports 5th grade history standards. Students re-enact life on a wagon train headed west and life on a homestead.

- Travel the trails on a pioneer plant hike
- ☼ Participate in an archaeological dig of the Wagner home and blacksmith shop sites
- ☼ Compare house building materials for pioneers, Californios and Native Peoples
- Discuss the ways pioneer communities worked together for survival
- Investigate transportation and hardships on the overland trails west
- Prepare a pioneer meal
- ☆ Make a pioneer craft (flipperdinger, whimmydiddle, whistle, cornhusk doll)
- Pan for gold and sing pioneer songs
- ☼ Play pioneer games such as tug-of-war

FIRST THANKSGIVING 5th Grade

This one-day program is designed to enhance 5th grade history standards. Students re-enact the harvest celebration of 1621 held in Plymouth Colony. Contributions of both the Native Peoples and the Europeans are highlighted. Small groups will rotate through the activities.

- Prepare a feast of popcorn, sliced fruits and vegetables, dried fruits, Pilgrim beans, cornbread, cooked pumpkin, cranberry sauce, baked apples, apple cider, and roasted corn
- Students learn about food contributions from the Wampanoags and the Europeans
 Make colonial crafts: cornhusk dolls, leather bracelets, and stencilled pieces
- Participate in native crafts: wind sticks, three sisters mementos, and archery
- * Make a proclamation to remember the day
- Play Pilgrim games such as log toss, horseshoes, and sack races
- Play Native games such as lacrosse
- ☼ Hear stories of Wampanoag daily life
- ☼ Participate in a Wampanoag ceremony of thanksgiving



WILDLIFE FESTIVAL Sunday, April 22, 2018 11:30 - 4:30

Free celebrations for Orinda students and families: games, crafts, scavenger hunts, music and food

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