

KINDERGARTEN

IDEAS FROM OUR TEAM ON HOW TO CREATE AN INTENTIONAL LEARNING EXPERIENCE!



Science

Motion & Stability:

Use a few different heights of ramps created through boards and blocks and show how the incline affects the speed of a ball rolling down it! Enjoy the walk into the cave and talk about the speed at which a ball would roll down!

Ecosystems:

Enjoy using our videos and quizzes to learn about cave ecosystems! This is a great way to engage your students before their adventure!



Social Studies

Teaching about Categories of historic time!:

A great way of involving your classroom having them create a cave sculpture using playdough before coming! Then talk about the difference in time it took for them to create their Caverns formation and how long it took for the formations in the cave to form!

Another helpful tool:

Use our calendar of historic events that took place right in our Caverns and when they happened (Included below). This would be a great time to talk about the diverse and extensive history of our state!

SOCIAL STUDIES

TIMELINE OF HISTORIC EVENTS AT DESOTO CAVERNS!

2,000
YEARS
AGO

Native American History

Native Americans used our Caverns as a shelter. The following are significant people, cultural practices, and words that are a part of our Timeless Tour: Chief Touch the Clouds • Copena Burials • Kymulga •

1540

Hernando DeSoto

Hernando was a Spanish explorer and conquistador and was the first European to view this cave's majestic beauty.

1723

I.W. Wright

The earliest Cave graffiti in the US was carved by I.W. Wright, a fur trader at DeSoto Caverns in 1723.

1796

Benjamin Hawkins

George Washington's primary Indian agent was invited on a special tour of DeSoto Caverns by the Creek Indians.

This tour led to DeSoto Caverns becoming the first cave on record in the United States!

1864

Civil War

DeSoto Caverns has an original trench dug during the Civil War for mining gun powder in the Caverns.

1910

Ida Mathis

Ida Mathis purchased the Caverns in 1910 to mine it for its gem stone quality onyx. Ida Mathis is in the Women's Hall of Fame for her work as the "Leader of Alabama's agricultural Renaissance" and the "economic Moses of the South." Her efforts have been estimated to be worth \$20 million to her home state back in the early 1900s. The Caverns are still privately owned and run by her descendents today.

1920s

The Prohibition

The Cavern Tavern was a short lived installation by Pete Willie, aka Old Popcorn. This Speakeasy served moonshine during the Prohibition in the 1920s.

DESOTO CAVERNS

WHERE HISTORY & SCIENCE ARE AN ADVENTURE

OUR MISSION

We believe in providing incredible educational entertainment in a safe friendly environment. We are committed to giving an amazing experience, and we hope you enjoy your day with us in person or online!



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