



**Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism
Educational Materials**

Office of Cultural Development
225-342-8200
www.crt.la.gov/culture

Division of Archaeology

OVERVIEW

A link to the Division of Archaeology's Educational Materials is on the Division of Archaeology's homepage [www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/]. Menu items direct the user to four categories of information: Virtual Books, Classroom Activity Guides, Traveling Exhibits, and Other Resources on the Internet. Further, another link from the homepage connects to the Los Adaes Interactive Virtual Museum exhibit about the Los Adaes site.

VIRTUAL BOOKS

The Virtual Books link [<http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/virtualbooks/index.aspx>] provides downloads of booklets about Louisiana archaeology.

Indian Mounds of Northeast Louisiana: A Driving Trail Guide, directs travelers to marked Indian mound sites that are visible from public roads. The guide is available in libraries, by mail, on-line as a pdf download:

http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/MoundsGuide/downloads/DOA-Moundbook-200_final.pdf

and as an interactive version with information accessed through maps:

<http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/moundsguide/index.html>

On the Tunica Trail introduces the Tunica Indians from prehistory to recent history: Available in libraries and on-line:

<http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/virtualbooks/TUNICA/TUNICA.HTM>

The Caddo Indians of Louisiana gives an overview of Caddo Indians from prehistory to recent history: Available in libraries and on-line:

<http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/virtualbooks/TUNICA/TUNICA.HTM>

The Role of Salt in North American Prehistory tells about prehistoric salt refining on Avery Island. Available in libraries and on-line:

<http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/virtualbooks/TUNICA/TUNICA.HTM>

El Nuevo Constante tells about the discovery and excavation of a Spanish merchant vessel that sank off Cameron Parish in 1766. Available in libraries, by mail, and on-line:

<http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/virtualbooks/NUEVO/NUEVO.HTM>

Preserving Louisiana's Legacy focuses on the role of the public in site preservation. Available in libraries and on-line:

<http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/virtualbooks/LEGACY/LEGACY.HTM>

Louisiana Prehistory gives an overview of Louisiana's past from 12,000 years ago to the time of de Soto. Available in libraries and on-line:

<http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/virtualbooks/LAPREHIS/LAPRE.HTM>

Poverty Point introduces readers to the 3,500-year-old site in northeast Louisiana. Available in libraries, by mail, and on-line:

<http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/virtualbooks/POVERPOI/Popo.htm>

Bailey's Dam tells about the Civil-War dam in Pineville. Available in libraries and on-line:

<http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/virtualbooks/BAILEYS/BAILEYS.HTM>

Beyond the Great House gives an overview of the history and archaeology at Ashland-Belle Helene Plantation House in Ascension Parish. Available in libraries and on-line:

<http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/virtualbooks/GREATHOU/MTGH.HTM>

CLASSROOM ACTIVITY GUIDES

The Classroom Activity Guides webpage provides links to all of the Division of Archaeology's educational activity guides:

http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/activity_booklets.aspx

Poverty Point Expeditions contains archaeology activities for elementary and middle school students. Available in libraries, by mail, and on-line:

http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/activity_booklets.aspx

Adventures in Classroom Archaeology presents archaeology activities for grades K-12. Available in libraries and as a download:

<http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/outreach/booklets/Adventures.pdf>

Classroom Archaeology has archaeology activities for middle school students. Available in libraries and as a download:

<http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/outreach/booklets/ClassroomArch.pdf>

Louisiana Indians Long Ago is a picture book for lower elementary school students. Available in libraries and as a download:

<http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/outreach/booklets/LaIndians.pdf>

TRAVELING CLASSROOM EXHIBITS

The Division of Archaeology distributes classroom exhibits about *El Nuevo Constante*, an 18th-century Spanish merchant vessel, and Poverty Point, a 3,500-year-old prehistoric Indian site. Each exhibit includes artifacts, caption cards, books, and lesson ideas. The duration of the classroom exhibit loan is two weeks, with shipping by FedEx Ground to the school. The school pays for return shipping. More information and on-line reservations are available through the website.

***El Nuevo Constante* Classroom Exhibit:**

<http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/outreach/ElNuevoConstanteExhibitInfo.aspx>

***Poverty Point* Classroom Exhibit:**

<http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/outreach/PovertyPointExhibitInfo.aspx>

OTHER EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES ON THE INTERNET

Links to other great on-line lesson plans and resources to help educators teach about Louisiana archaeology are available through a link on the Division of Archaeology's website:

<http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/resources.aspx>

INTERACTIVE VIRTUAL MUSEUM DISPLAY

The Division of Archaeology provides an interactive website that allows teachers, students, and others to explore Los Adaes, an eighteenth-century Spanish fort and mission in western Louisiana. The website includes maps, photographs of artifacts, and text interpreting the interaction of Spanish, French, and native peoples at the edge of the Spanish empire.

Los Adaes: Life at an Eighteenth Century Spanish Outpost

<http://www.crt.state.la.us/archaeology/LosAdaes/>

Division of the Arts

ARTS-IN-EDUCATION LISTS

While the Division of the Arts does not own specific materials, this list is what we give to teachers interested in arts integration.

2009 Arts Education in Louisiana Survey Results, Louisiana Division of the Arts

<http://www.crt.state.la.us/arts/Publications.aspx>

Louisiana Department of Education Model Arts Lessons (we funded the focus groups that provided feedback about these lessons)

http://www.louisianaschools.net/curriculum/arts_web_resources.html

Arts Edge (Kennedy Center) – recently created a new and unbelievable website for arts education/integration.

<http://artsedge.kennedy-center.org/educators.aspx>

Kennedy Center Arts Integration Program (LDOA has adopted their definition of arts integration)

<http://www.kennedy-center.org/education/ceta/>

Poetry Out Loud – LDOA implements this national program across the state, this year reaching over 1000 students.

<http://poetryoutloud.org/>

Below are examples of state arts commission websites regarding their arts integration programs. I would very much like to develop something like:

<http://www.mswholeschools.org/> or

http://www.arts.state.tn.us/arts_integration.htm

FOLKLIFE

The Louisiana Division of the Arts Folklife Program provides educational materials on the *Folklife in Louisiana* website, www.louisianafolklife.org. This site includes three sections. The *Louisiana Folklife Program* section includes information about planning folklife projects to document or present Louisiana's traditional cultures. The *Louisiana's Living Traditions* section includes information about Louisiana's folk traditions and groups. Here one will find hundreds of articles, virtual books, a virtual exhibit, a photo gallery, maps, video, and audio in addition to bibliographies and more. The Louisiana Quilt Documentation Project features hundreds of quilts from throughout Louisiana.

The *Louisiana Voices Folklife in Education Project* section provides resources specifically designed for teachers and students through the Louisiana Voices Educators Guide, www.louisianavoices.org, an award winning site that has been used as a model for projects in other US states and other countries. The lessons link to the resources on www.louisianafolklife.org.

The *Louisiana Voices Email Group* provides a means of communicating with educators and others interested in Louisiana folklife. http://www.louisianavoices.org/join_the_community.html.

The Guide includes 43 lessons and activities in 9 units that integrate Louisiana Education Content Standards. Every lesson addresses Social Studies and English Language Arts, and some also address Visual Arts, Music, Foreign Language, Mathematics, or Science Content Standards. These lessons target 4th and 8th grades, but they can be adapted to any grade level. The 8th grade activities are especially adaptable for high school students. In addition to introducing students to Louisiana folklife and their own community traditions, the units include extensive technology applications, authentic assessment strategies, and student worksheets as well as links to high-quality folklife videos, music, stories, bibliographies, and websites. Thus, these units provide a fascinating blend of high tech and low tech, marrying the traditional and the technological.

Most Louisiana Voices resources target educators, but each lesson includes student worksheets and some additional student resources and teaching aids. A summary of lessons and activities is online at http://www.louisianavoices.org/edu_summary.html along with links to glossary and adaptation strategies. The resources on www.louisianavoices.org are public domain and educators are encouraged to adapt the lessons to their own classroom. Resources on the www.louisianafoklife.org website are not public domain.

Unit I Defining Terms introduces students to folklife and fieldwork. When you research and document the culture of your communities, you are undertaking fieldwork. You might do this through interviews, photography, audiotaping, videotaping, sketching, or research. There are so many educational advantages to conducting fieldwork with your students that you won't want to pass this opportunity up! Fieldwork builds students' communication skills and enhances their analytical skills. It also builds creativity in students.

Unit II Classroom Applications of Fieldwork Basics guides students through planning fieldwork research collaboratively and step by step to set goals, choosing methodologies and technology, identifying subjects, designing research instruments, developing project schedules and checklists, and teaches the importance of testing tools and equipment and practicing interviewing. A concise overview is provided in *Fieldwork Basics Overview*.

Unit III Discovering the Obvious: Our Lives as "The Folk" helps students to discover folklife through their own traditions in everyday life -- their games and play, school, and family.

Unit IV The State of Our Lives: Being a Louisiana Neighbor emphasizes map skills and regionality and covers Louisiana's major folk cultural regions, sense of place, environment, and geography while providing a useful framework of cultural perspectives to help students consider the many elements that contribute to "sense of place." Technology options include making spreadsheets and large maps.

Unit V Oral Traditions: Swapping Stories covers a wide variety of oral traditions, from local and historical legends to personal experience narratives, drawing heavily on *Swapping Stories: Folktales from Louisiana*, a publication, video, and website that students will explore.

Unit VI Louisiana's Musical Landscape explores Louisiana music and folk dance; addresses listening skills; and relates music to social studies, economics, language arts, musical legends, and visual arts as well as school-based music studies.

Unit VII Material Culture--The Stuff of Life introduces the concept of material culture and provides ways of looking at artifacts, art, teaching, and learning. Students examine the aesthetics of everyday life such as vernacular architecture, gardens and yards, needlework, crafts, hairstyles, foodways, body ornamentation, clothing and costumes. Students consider questions of use and beauty and the importance of context to artifacts. This unit includes the study unit, *Louisiana's Many Food Traditions*. L'Unité 7 est accessible en français.

Unit VIII The Worlds of Work and Play encourages students' interaction with adults in the community through documenting traditional occupations. Students also investigate ways that adults enjoy life and share community through recreation, hobbies, celebrations, oral narrative, and other traditions. L'Unité 8 est accessible en français.

Unit IX The Seasonal Round and The Cycle of Life encourages students' interaction with adults and covers seasonal round customs, beliefs, traditions, celebrations, and holidays. ***Part 1 The Seasonal Round*** is designed for younger students, but older students can use activities in Lessons 2 and 3 to acquaint themselves with the concept of the "seasonal round" and to identify traditions important to them throughout the year. Students in grades 8 and higher may use activities in ***Part 2 The Cycle of Life*** to research rites of passage, the role of older people in society, beliefs about health, burial traditions, and local cemeteries.

In the Wake of the Hurricanes, 5-12th grade Study Unit is in response to the 2005 hurricanes. The unit involves teaching students to interview each other, community members, and family members about the experiences of this year's hurricanes and their aftermath. The activities are designed to allow teachers great flexibility and easy to use.

A link to the Folklife educational materials is on the Louisiana Division of the Arts homepage, www.crt.state.la.us/arts.

Division of Historic Preservation

LOUISIANA STUDIES IN HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Louisiana Studies in Historic Preservation is a web site containing a ten-unit heritage education curriculum. The latter is designed to provide children with a sense of understanding, appreciation, pride, and stewardship for the state's historic buildings. In doing so, it also assists teachers in meeting the Department of Education's Social Studies standards. The units include: French Creole Heritage, Age of Mechanization, The Acadians, African-American Life, Downtown Louisiana, Pioneer Settlement, the Victorian era, the Twentieth Century, and Caring for Our Heritage.

Sponsor: Division of Historic Preservation

Web Site URL: <http://www.crt.state.la.us/hp/laheritage/index.html>

This material does not exist in printed form.

Please Note:

The Division of Historic Preservation is no longer active in heritage education. Nevertheless, our web site is still available online. Please understand that it was never completed and has not been updated in at least three (probably more) years.

HISTORIC CONTEXTS

Historic Contexts are in-depth explorations of subjects. They are created for the purpose of providing background for National Register nominations but might also be used by educators and members of the general public to gather information about historic events, places, and/or architectural styles. Historic Contexts currently available include the Greek Revival Style, the Beaux Arts Style, and a four-part series on Louisiana Architecture 1945-1960. Contexts for additional styles, the African American Experience, Education in Louisiana, and the Lumber Industry are currently under preparation by consultants.

Sponsor: Division of Historic Preservation

Web Site URL: http://www.crt.state.la.us/hp/nationalregister/historic_contexts.aspx

This material is not readily available in printed form.

PRESERVATION IN PRINT ARTICLES

Usually authored by staff, articles discussing Louisiana's history and culture as illustrated by its buildings have appeared in *Preservation in Print* since the late 1980s.

Sponsor: Division of Historic Preservation

Web Site URL: <http://www.prcno.org/programs/preservationinprint/>

NOTE: This web site is maintained by the Preservation Resource Center, which is working toward placing past issues of the publication online.

This material is available in printed form only at public libraries and in our archives.

Council for the Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL)

337-262-5810

www.codofil.org

LOUISIANA FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

French Lessons from TV5, French Language television station,

http://www.tv5.org/TV5Site/enseigner-apprendre-francais/accueil_apprendre.php

Cinéma français on LPB with lesson plans. http://beta.lpb.org/index.php/cinema_francais/

La Bibliothèque Tintamarre

<http://www.centenary.edu/french/louisiane.html>

Les Éditions Tintamarre.

<http://www.centenary.edu/editions/catalogue.html>

French Immersion resources.

<http://www.frenchimmersionusa.org/index.php>

Learn Cajun French Online

<http://ilcpan.giza.tulane.edu/cajun/Cajun.html#>

Cajun Studies Program at LSU

[http://appl003.lsu.edu/artsci/frenchweb.nsf/\\$Content/Cajun+French?OpenDocument](http://appl003.lsu.edu/artsci/frenchweb.nsf/$Content/Cajun+French?OpenDocument)

Dictionary of Louisiana Creole

<http://www.indiana.edu/~creole/abstract.html#dlc>

Dictionary of Louisiana French

<http://www.upress.state.ms.us/books/1227>

Guide for Administrators of Elementary-Level and Immersion World Languages

<http://www.louisianaschools.net/lde/uploads/3221.pdf>

Louisiana Foreign Language Content Standards

<http://www.louisianaschools.net/lde/uploads/2913.pdf>

Louisiana Department of Education French Curriculum Standards 4-12

http://www.louisianaschools.net/curriculum/french_spanish_4-12.html

Louisiana Department of Education Content Based Lesson Plans

http://www.louisianaschools.net/curriculum/french_spanish_lessons.html

Office of the State Library

225-342-4923

www.state.lib.la.us

Makes Available For Teachers and Students:

LIBRARIES: CONNECTING PEOPLE TO THEIR POTENTIAL

In early 2010, the State Library won a competitive federal stimulus grant in the amount of \$8.8 million to fund its “Louisiana Libraries: Connecting People to their Potential” project, which is designed to expand usage of technology in improving educational achievements and workforce training in all of Louisiana’s public libraries.

The Department of Commerce’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration’s (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program, or BTOP, is funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. These grants provide support for the deployment of broadband infrastructure in unserved and underserved areas including enhancing public computer centers and encouraging sustainable adoption of broadband service. Public libraries are the primary public computer centers for Louisiana.

Material created and distributed include:

- Poster announcing program
- Program Card (wallet sized card with spaces for students to write in login information)

Web site: <http://lplibcon.state.lib.la.us/>

- [Tutor.com \(HomeworkLouisiana\)](#)
- [Career Cruising](#)
- [Learning Express](#)
- [Teen Health and Wellness](#)

Passport to Electronic Services Brochure

Describes the electronic services (databases) that OSL makes available. These services are located at <http://lplibcon.state.lib.la.us/>

LOUISIANA YOUNG READERS' CHOICE AWARD

The Louisiana Young Readers' Choice Award, now in its 11th year, is a reading enrichment program of the State Library. It is a model collaborative reading program involving students, teachers and public librarians in all regions of the state. Students in grades three through eight are encouraged to read the high-quality books that are on carefully selected book lists: one list for grades three through five and another list for grades six through eight. Using specially prepared study guides, teachers incorporate the books into the curriculum. The 2010 LYRCA program saw an increase in participation of more than 10,000 students over the previous year, a more than 29,000 students voting. Voting day is an exciting time in many schools and libraries throughout Louisiana as the students cast their votes, sometimes using the voting booths supplied by the Secretary of State's Voter Outreach Division. Visit <http://www.state.lib.la.us/literacy-and-reading/louisiana-young-readers-choice> for more information.

Materials distributed include:

- Sixty LYRC Book Set Grants
- Bookmarks for teens
- Bookmarks for children
- Posters
- Brochures
- Seals for award books
- Reproducible images of the LYRC seal
- Title List
- Annotated Title List
- Consideration List
- Study Guides

ONLINE SAFETY BOOKMARKS

These are a matching set of bookmarks. They highlight safety information for young children and teens. For parents, they offer tips on protecting their children.

Materials distributed include:

- Online Safety Tips for Kids
- Online Safety Tips for Teens
- Online Safety Tips for Parents to teach their offspring

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Children participating in the summer reading program read books throughout the summer and attend library programs. The goal is to foster self-confidence and create lifelong readers.

Families are encouraged to check with their local public library to learn about the specific incentives and programs available in their community.

Materials distributed include:

- SRP Fact Sheet
- Posters
- Artwork
- SRP PSAs for radio and television

Visit <http://www.state.lib.la.us/literacy-and-reading/summer-reading-programs> for more information.

LOUISIANA GUMBO

A Recipe for Empowerment Lesson Plans (LOUISiana Digital Library)

OSL has an extensive collection of Louisiana-related photographs, predominantly black and white image from the 1920's to the 1970's. There is a strong emphasis on photographs of notable Louisiana personalities: governors, artists, authors and musicians. Historic buildings and other architectural gems, such as plantations, schools and churches are included. The recreational aspects of The Sportsman's Paradise are emphasized with images of hunting, fishing and camping. This digital collection provides a unique look into the history and culture of Louisiana and is available to students, researchers and the general public.

The digital collection is a part of a larger project entitled Louisiana Gumbo: A Recipe for Empowerment, which was funded through an Institute of Museum and Library Services National Leadership Grant (IMLS). The project is part of an ongoing effort to provide digital resources for K-12 students and teachers, as well as researchers and the general public.

Materials provided:

- Provided 50 lesson plans linked to school curricula. Each Louisiana Gumbo lesson is correlated to the Louisiana Comprehensive Curriculum and uses inquiry and collaboration as springboards for successful teacher-student interaction with relevant primary materials.

Visit

<http://louisdl.louislibraries.org/index.php?institution=State%20Library%20Of%20Louisiana> to view OSL's portion of the collection.

LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE

The Louisiana Center for the Book in the State Library of Louisiana, in partnership with the Louisiana Writers Project, is the Louisiana sponsor of Letters About Literature, a national reading-writing contest. To enter, the student reader must write a personal letter to an author

explaining how that author's work changed the student's way of thinking about the world or themselves. Last year, a Louisiana student actually became a national finalist.

To promote Letters About Literature, OSL provides or distributes:

- *LAL announcements targeted to:*
 - Homeschooled students
 - Librarians
 - Teachers
- LAL Guidelines and Entry Coupon
- Posters
- Bookmarks

Visit <http://www.lettersaboutliterature.org/> to learn more about this reading and writing enrichment program

Louisiana State Museum
504-568-6968
www.lsm.crt.state.la.us

Overview

The Louisiana State Museum makes online exhibitions and education materials available via their website, <http://lsm.crt.state.la.us>. The Museum provides educator guides for a number of their permanent and past exhibitions and to accompany their historic properties as well as guides for a number of their traveling exhibitions. Many of these materials need to be updated to meet current curriculum standards. Additional materials need to be developed to expand the reach of the Museum's permanent exhibitions.

Education Website: <http://lsm.crt.state.la.us/education/default.asp>

TEACHER GUIDES

Cabildo

The Louisiana State Museum's Cabildo houses an exhibition covering the history of Louisiana from Colonization through Reconstruction. Students will discover Louisiana history through their examination of artifacts and written information. They will be challenged both visually and intellectually to discover the impact of a variety of people and events on Louisiana's social, economic, political, and cultural development. Accompanies the online Cabildo exhibit.

Exhibit online: <http://lsm.crt.state.la.us/cabildo/cab-intro.htm>

Teacher guide online: http://lsm.crt.state.la.us/education/k12/educator_guides.asp

Mardi Gras: It's Carnival Time in New Orleans

This guide to the exhibition provides an overview of the Mardi Gras exhibition as well as post-visit activities for K-12 audiences.

Exhibit online: <http://lsm.crt.state.la.us/mgras/mardigras.htm>

Teacher guide online: http://lsm.crt.state.la.us/education/k12/educator_guides.asp

From Tramps to Kings: 100 Years of Zulu

This teacher guide accompanied the Louisiana State Museum's From Tramps to Kings exhibition. The guide contains resources to conduct the teacher-constructed lessons.

Exhibit online: <http://lsm.crt.state.la.us/mgras/mardigras.htm>

Teacher guide online: http://lsm.crt.state.la.us/education/k12/educator_guides.asp

Let Your Motto be Resistance

This teacher guide accompanied an exhibition of African American portraits on view at the Louisiana State Museum's Old U.S. Mint from March 15 to June 1, 2008. The guide includes materials to implement the lesson plans and contains suggested reading lists.

Exhibit online: <http://lsm.crt.state.la.us/mgras/mardigras.htm>

Teacher guide online: http://lsm.crt.state.la.us/education/k12/educator_guides.asp

The 1850 House

This guide provides an introduction to the 1850 House. The narrative includes images and historic facts teachers will need to implement the accompanying activities.

Teacher guide online: http://lsm.crt.state.la.us/education/k12/educator_guides.asp

Madame John's Legacy

Contains an introduction to the site and a tour overview as well as classroom and tour activities.

Exhibit online: <http://lsm.crt.state.la.us/mjohns/mjohn.htm>

Teacher guide online: http://lsm.crt.state.la.us/education/k12/educator_guides.asp

West Florida Republic

This is a new guide and is not currently available to educators via the Internet. The guide provides background information on the history of the West Florida Republic and revolution as well as a variety of cross-curricular lesson plans and activities.

Office of State Parks

225-342-8111

www.crt.la.gov/parks

ENDEAVORS IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION

Interpretive efforts towards schools and other education related facilities continue to be a very important aspect of Interpretive Services' goal of educating the youth of Louisiana on the many natural and cultural resources of the State of Louisiana. The educational endeavors of State Parks take place not only at Parks, Historic Sites, and Preservation Areas, but also in the classroom. Interpretive Rangers go into communities and have a positive impact on school age children with the message of interpretation and appreciation of Louisiana's resources. Following are several endeavors which serve as examples of State Parks efforts to play a greater role in communities served through education.

- There are currently fourteen state parks and sixteen historic sites offering interpretive/educational programs for school age youth. Annually, fifty thousand plus school age children visit state parks in order to participate in scheduled programs either as part of organized school day events or as educational field trips. These activities are

coordinated by Interpretive Rangers directly with local schools in the communities served by State Parks.

- Each site with an Interpretive Ranger staff is required to develop “Teacher Packets” which describe how the local site can best serve the school by building upon what is being taught in the classroom. This method of promoting the park as an “extension of the classroom” builds a bridge between the Interpretive Ranger and the teacher, thus expanding learning possibilities for students. A typical teacher packet will include information about the site, pre and post field trip lesson plans, GLEs, and other pertinent information on scheduling field trips.
- Each year thousands of students are reached through in-class programs, where the Interpretive Ranger actually goes into the classroom and offers an interpretive program to students who might not have an opportunity to take part in a fieldtrip experience.
- Each year Interpretive Rangers across the state participate in Department of Education sponsored gatherings that bring large numbers of students to a central location where several groups and agencies can reach students directly. Examples of these types of activities include Ocean Commotion, EarthFest, and Museum Day.
- Recently, all educational interpretive programs offered by the Office of State Parks were matched with Department of Education required benchmarks. These benchmarks are matched with each site offering programs and are now part of a page on the State Parks website specifically designed for teacher use. The “Teacher Guide” portion of the OSP website not only includes benchmark information, it also includes contact info and a short description of educational programs offered at each site.
- Several years ago, OSP initiated the “Junior Ranger Program.” Junior Ranger participants are required to become active participants in programs at the park of their choice, do community service projects, and spend more quality time in an outdoor environment. Students are invited to participate, and those that complete the requirements receive a patch and a certificate, naming the student an official Junior Ranger. Junior Rangers are also invited to offer programs at parks on their own, mentored by an Interpretive Ranger. This program has proved to be a fun, yet educational, way of getting students more involved in the parks and communities served by parks.
- Interpretive Services has developed a Home School Outreach program, whereby OSP is working directly with home school organizations in order to make programming opportunities available to nontraditional school groups. Parks have seen a steady increase in home school groups participating in scheduled school day events and other scheduled programs.
- Interpretive Services is currently a partner with LSU in the “Coastal Roots Program.” Coastal Roots works with students in the class room on the importance of reforestation and coastal erosion issues. Seedlings are planted at the school and are transported and replanted at a park site as part of a field trip experience. Bayou Segnette, Fairview-Riverside, and Fontainebleau State Park have served as flagship sites for this program, and the program continues to expand.

- Louisiana State Parks serves as a partner in the *Children in Nature* National Effort, a joint program of the National Park Service and the National Association of State Park Directors. As a partner, many of the educational programs offered by State Parks are advertised on the OSP website, and other print media, with the *Children in Nature* logo, which sends a strong message to teachers that State Parks is serious about incorporating healthy lifestyle and back to nature messages in the general interpretive message of understanding Louisiana's natural and cultural resources.
- As a result of the successful partnerships developed through the Louisiana Outdoor Outreach Program (LOOP) the Office of State Parks has developed a positive presence for many underserved student based populations in the New Orleans and Baton Rouge area. A partial list of schools that LOOP has developed programming for include Arthur Ashe Elementary Charter, Benjamin Banneker Elementary, and Esperanza Charter (New Orleans) and Istrouma High School, Staring Education Center, Buchanan Elementary (Baton Rouge.)
- State Parks has partnered with individual schools, such as the Joseph A. Craig School, of the New Orleans Recovery School District, as part of The Gulf of Mexico Alliance Diversity Project. In this project, fifth graders were taught the importance of coastal environments and erosion. The Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program and the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium served as partners for this project as well.
- State Parks and Historic Sites that offer educational programming opportunities are featured in teacher oriented publications such as *101 South Louisiana Field Trips*, by Julia Rose, and National Park Services' *Teaching with Historic Places* website, that features National Landmarks in the United States.

Information for teachers can also be found on our website at

<http://www.crt.state.la.us/parks/iteacherguides.aspx> and information regarding LOOP programming can also be found on our website at <http://www.crt.state.la.us/parks/iloop.aspx> . In addition, we also have developed a brochure, "Louisiana State Parks: Interpretive Programming," which provides teachers with a summary of our offerings.

In conclusion, Interpretive Services and the Office of State Parks recognize the value, and potential of Louisiana's school age children. By providing these students an opportunity to learn about Louisiana's rich natural and cultural resources both inside and outside the classroom will foster an interest in community issues and State issues, thus laying the building blocks for more involved citizens of the State of Louisiana.

Office of Tourism
225-342-8119
www.crt.la.gov/tourism

At this time the only educational brochure that the Office of Tourism has is the "Learn about Louisiana" guide and map. It can be obtained by calling 225-342-8119 or 800-334-8626.