

Nojoqui Falls Park

Nojoqui Falls lies on the edge between wild lands and agricultural lands, allowing students to see the effects of natural settings and those maintained for harvest and recreation at the lower park. The rolling green of lower fields allows for games introducing concepts from nature in an open setting and the trail to the falls for interpretation of the natural ecology of the area. A very slow moving landslide, shale and a fault at the falls provide geological perspective relative to the Santa Ynez Valley beginning at the lower park. Seasonal waterfalls and riparian habitat with sycamore, bay laurel and the ever-present poison oak contrast with planted areas below and outside the park boundaries.



Agriculture is nature harnessed for food production and here we are able to point out how the wild native plants live in contrast with those domesticated as crops in a ruderal setting. Often students visit the nearby farms in conjunction with our partners, [SY Veggie Rescue](#), which we then label as FarmTrack Adventures. Students learn about organic farming and what makes it different from non-organic farming. Students learn about gleaning, then actual glean produce to be donated to a local non-profit.

Appropriate for *Grades K – 8, especially K - 2*

Available Field Trip Emphases: *Geology, Ecology (including Riparian and Ruderal habitats)*

Led by experienced and enthusiastic Nature Track docents, field trips at Nojoqui Falls are designed to be used as a companion to state science standards and provide a real-life experience for students in geology and ecology. Docents can lead students in trips that focus on the appropriate grade level and subject and engage students in exploration of science and nature through hikes, guided discussion, and educational nature games. Nature-based art and other creative projects are also available.



Field Trips at Nojoqui Falls can be used in conjunction with the following California State Standards and Next Generation Science Standards:

Geology Field Trip

Grade	CA Standards	Next Generation
K	Earth Sciences: 3a	Energy: K-PS3.B
2	Earth Sciences: 3a, 3b, 3c	Earth's Place in the Universe: 2-ESS1.C; Earth's Systems: 2-ESS2.A, 2-ESS2.B, 2-ESS2.C
4	Earth Sciences: 4a, 4b, 5a, 5b, 5c	Earth's Place in the Universe: 4-ESS1.C; Earth's Systems: 4-ESS2.A, 4-ESS2.B; Earth and Human Activity: 4-ESS3.A
5	-	Earth's Systems: 5-ESS2.A, 5-ESS2.C; Earth and Human Activity: 5-ESS3.C
6	Earth Sciences: 1b, 1d, 1e, 1f, 2a, 2b, 2d; Investigation & Experimentation: 7f, 7g	<p>Standards for 6-8:</p> Earth's Place in the Universe: MS-ESS1.C; Earth's Systems: MS-ESS1.C, MS-ESS2.A, MS-ESS2.B, MS-ESS2.C; Earth and Human Activity: MS-ESS3.A, MS-ESS3.C, MS-ESS3.D
7	Life Sciences: 4a, 4b, 4c, 4d, 4f	See Above
8	-	See Above



Ecology Field Trip

Grade	CA Standards	Next Generation
K	Life Sciences: 2a, 2c	From Molecules to Organisms: K-LS1.C; Earth's Systems: K-ESS2.E, K-ESS3.C; Earth and Human Activity: ESS3.A
1	Life Sciences: 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e	From Molecules to Organisms: 1-LS1.A, 1-LS1.B; Heredity: 1-LS3.A, 1-LS3.B
2	Life Sciences: 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f	Ecosystems: 2-LS2.A; Evolution: 2-LS4.D
3	Life Sciences: 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e	From Molecules to Organisms: 3-LS1.B; Ecosystems: 3-LS2.D; Heredity: 3-LS3.A, 3-LS3.B; Evolution: 3-LS2.C, 3-LS4.A, 3-LS4.B, 3-LS4.C, 3-LS4.D
4	Life Sciences: 2a, 2b, 2c, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d	From Molecules to Organisms: 4-LS1.A, 4-LS1.D; Earth's Systems: 4-ESS2.E
5	-	Energy: 5-PS3.D, 5-LS1.C; From Molecules to Organisms: 5-LS1.C; Ecosystems: 5-LS2.A, 5-LS2.B
6	Earth Sciences: 5a, 5b, 5c, 5d, 5e	Standards for 6-8: From Molecules to Organisms: MS-LS1.B, MS-LS1.C; Ecosystems: MS-LS2.A, MS-LS2.B, MS-LS2.C, MS-LS4.D; Heredity: MS-LS1.B; Evolution: MS-LS4.C
7	Life Sciences: 2a, 3a, 3e, 5a, 5f	See Above
8	-	See Above

