

Gaviota State Park

Trails at **Gaviota State Park** parallel the historical crossroads of Santa Barbara County where native-Americans traveled from the islands, the ocean and foothills to the interior as far as the Sierra and back to trade diverse resources and goods from across these geographic areas. Unique geology created the Gaviota Canyon that has been used for eons as a corridor for human travel from footpaths to state highway and railroad. The same corridor is the pathway for an exchange of wildlife and plants represented in multiple habitats including coastal strand, chaparral, coastal sage, oak woodland, grassland, as well as riparian/marsh areas. The rich diversity of plants and animals affords opportunity to explore their relationship with this unique geographic area.



We take lessons here from the geology and weather, especially influenced by the geographic configuration of nearby Point Conception and the influence of the Channel Islands with ocean currents and landmass air movement. Because elevation changes and the varied coastal influence, there is an enormous variety of plants closely arrayed by habitat allowing comparisons between habitats and seasonal changes. Short walking distances yield huge variety in observations about the natural history in this locale and how it compares to the wider county.

Appropriate for Grades K – 8

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

Led by experienced and enthusiastic Nature Track docents, field trips at Goleta Monarch Butterfly Preserve 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 Gaviota State Park 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	Standards for 6-8: 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
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