

### Early Technology for all Ages

- Grades K-12
- Ranger led (60 minutes)

This program introduces a variety of tools used in early Plains cultures via PowerPoint and includes an age appropriate hands-on-activity:

K-3) Card game

4-12) Archeology Excavation with Artifact Documentation

5-12) Atlatl Throwing

*Montana Content Standards: Social Studies, Science, Math, Writing, Speaking and Listening*



### Nature Walk

- Grades PreK-12
- Ranger led (60 minutes)

Discover the flora and fauna of the park in more detail through a ranger led nature walk. (Generally either the Trail Tour OR the Nature Walk are chosen, but not both as some information overlaps) If desired and seasonally available, one of the following topics can be chosen as the primary focus:

Geology) Students will learn the rocks of the area, how they were formed and why they are considered “dynamic”

Plants) Learn the plant cycle and discover its’ importance for early inhabitants of this region.

Weeds) Discover the issues regarding noxious weeds as well as the proactive plans to restore native habitat.

Animals) Students will become familiar with animals of the local ecosystem and be able to identify them by sign and sight.

*Montana Content Standards: Science, Math, Speaking and Listening,*

Pictograph Cave State Park provides a unique opportunity to learn about the history of ancient peoples, the geological processes responsible for the topography of south-central Montana, and the flora and fauna of the native ecosystem.

Six miles south of Billings, Montana, the historical and natural resources of this National Historic Landmark make it an ideal outdoor learning environment. The visitor center features interpretive displays, classroom and gift shop. A picnic area is available for your use as well. There is no admission charge for educational groups within Montana. Pre-registration for an interpretive program is required at least one week prior to the desired date. This allows us the prepare the best possible experience for you and your class. However, please note that field trip season is very busy and dates tend to fill quickly. In order to guarantee a program, we suggest contacting us well in advance since we schedule on a first-come, first-served basis. Thank you!



Visit us online at: <http://stateparks.mt.gov/>

**For scheduling or questions contact:**

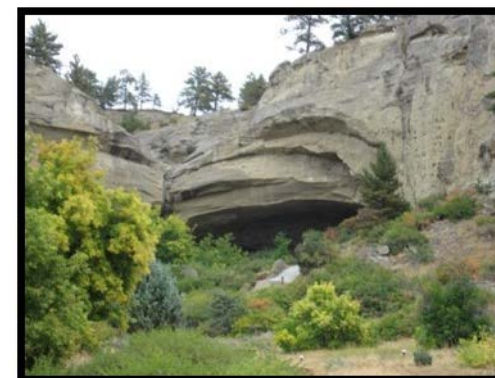
**406-254-7342**

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Pictograph Cave State Park  
3401 Coburn Road  
Billings, MT 59101

## Pictograph Cave State Park Teacher’s Guide: Available Educational Programs

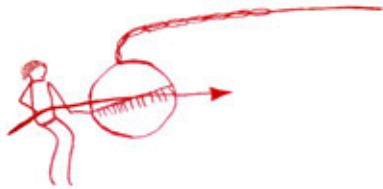


The past is *this* close!



## Group Limitations

To best accommodate students, please limit class size from a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 20-25 students per activity. The park staff can do rotations for larger groups. For 25-50 students, a two part rotation can be done with staff, and for 50-75 students, a three part rotation can be done with the help of a teacher. A two part rotation splits the group in half and rotates between a trail tour and an educational activity, while a three part rotation adds in a teacher led scavenger hunt and/or teacher led educational activity. Please schedule your group at least one week in advance.



## Indian Education for All

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks and the Office of Public Instruction, created 25 lesson plans for teachers K – 12. The plans each relate to a state park and can be adapted for classroom needs. Students' knowledge and experience will be enhanced by a visit to a state park, but the lesson plans can also stand alone. The plans are available at: [stateparks.mt.gov/learn-with-us/indianeducationfromopi.html](http://stateparks.mt.gov/learn-with-us/indianeducationfromopi.html)

## Classroom Visit

- All grades
- Ranger led (45-60 minutes)

A park ranger will come to your school to present an interpretive PowerPoint program about the history and life at Pictograph Caves. This hands-on program can be presented for multiple classes.

*Montana Content Standards: Social Studies, Science, Speaking & Listening, Reading, Math*

## Trail Tour

- All grades
- Ranger led (45-60 minutes)

The guided trail tour is currently offered in two different formats. Please note that neither option takes students directly into Pictograph Cave, due to safety reasons; however, all topics are covered via audio-visual materials.

- 1) A ranger will guide the group along a  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile interpretive trail discussing the caves' human history and archeological past. The tour will end in the Visitor Center classroom with a PowerPoint explanation of Pictograph Cave.
- 2) In lieu of the traditional trail tour, a full length virtual tour is available and will cover the same materials as the conventional format.

*Montana Content Standards: Social Studies, Science, Math, Speaking & Listening, Reading, Art*

## Self-Guided Tour

- All grades
- Teacher led

Come with a lesson plan or use the park's visitor center, trailside interpretive panels, and printed trail guide as resources. In addition, a park ranger will present a brief orientation (please RSVP).



## Discovery Tasks

- PreK
- Ranger or Teacher led (30 minutes)

Students will work together and explore the natural environment with a discovery-based scavenger hunt activity.

*Montana Content Standards: Science, Speaking & Listening, Art, Writing*



## Native Games

- Grades PreK-8
- Ranger led (30 minutes)

Become more familiar with the traditions of regional tribes as you have fun exploring some of their traditional ideas and beliefs.

*Montana Content Standards: Social Studies, Speaking & Listening, Art*



## Create Your Own Shield Bearer/ Paint your own Pictograph

- Grades: PreK-6
- Ranger or Teacher led (30 minutes)

These programs discuss the importance of pictographs in the historic and thematic senses and provide students with an opportunity for self-expression.

*Montana Content Standards: Art, Social Studies, Speaking & Listening*