



# 5th Grade

## Human Interactions with Earth Systems

*"They retained so much info because the entire field trip kept their interest!" - 5th Grade Teacher*

### OVERVIEW

Students use investigation and inquiry to learn about careers in science, energy transfer and the biodiversity of local flora and fauna. Students engage in critical thinking as they consider human influence on the environment.

### COMPLIMENTARY SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

#### CARING FOR THE LAND: THE SCIENCE AND STEWARDSHIP OF OPEN SPACE

This pre-field trip presentation highlights how humans affect the environment. Students learn how science is used to make decisions about how people care for the earth's resources. Students study ecosystem interactions, land and water use, as well as how people can be a positive influence on their local environment.

### STANDARDS

- NGSS 5-PS3-1, 5 - LS2-1, 5-ESS3-1, 5-ESS2-1
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.5.4
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.5.6

### HANDS-ON FIELD TRIP ACTIVITIES

- OAK WOODLAND SCIENTIFIC SURVEY: Students conduct scientific experiments to test how biotic and abiotic factors influence the oak woodland ecosystem. Students record data and draw sketches in their own field study notebook.
- GRASSLAND SCIENTIFIC SURVEY: Students conduct scientific experiments to test how biotic and abiotic factors influence the grassland ecosystem. Students compare and contrast the two distinct ecosystems in their field study notebook.
- FOOD CHAIN: Students explore the important roles organisms play as energy is transferred within a food chain. Students meet a live animal as they consider its role in the food chain.
- CAREERS IN SCIENCE: Students become wildlife biologists, ornithologists and botanists as they explore potential careers in science. Students use scientific observations and investigations as they learn how scientists monitor native plants and animals on the Reserve.

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## SCHOOL PROGRAMS on THE RESERVE at RANCHO MISSION VIEJO

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Field trips and assemblies can be scheduled throughout the school year. For details and registration, please call 949.489.9778 or email Education Coordinator, Bonnie McQuiston at [bmcquiston@rmvreserve.org](mailto:bmcquiston@rmvreserve.org).

 **THE RESERVE**  
AT RANCHO MISSION VIEJO