

The logo for Mesa Grande Cultural Park is displayed on a light-colored, textured background. It features a stylized, wavy line above the text. The text is arranged in two lines: "MESA GRANDE" on the top line and "CULTURAL PARK" on the bottom line. The font is a clean, sans-serif style.

MESA GRANDE CULTURAL PARK



Mesa Grande Cultural Park is an active archaeological site associated with the Arizona Museum of Natural History where students can get hands on archaeological experience and discover more about Arizona's prehistory in a dynamic environment.

Mesa Grande is open from **October - May**



Mesa Grande is located at
1000 N. Date St. Mesa, AZ 85201

Cost

\$6.00 per person including chaperones
\$9.00 per person for joint field trips

Joint trips include a guided program at Mesa Grande and an unguided visit to the Arizona Museum of Natural History: School groups larger than 60 people must book the joint trip.

Call 480-644-3553 to book your field trip.

Length

90 minutes for Mesa Grande
3.5 hours for joint trips

Start time

10 am for either program

Lunch space

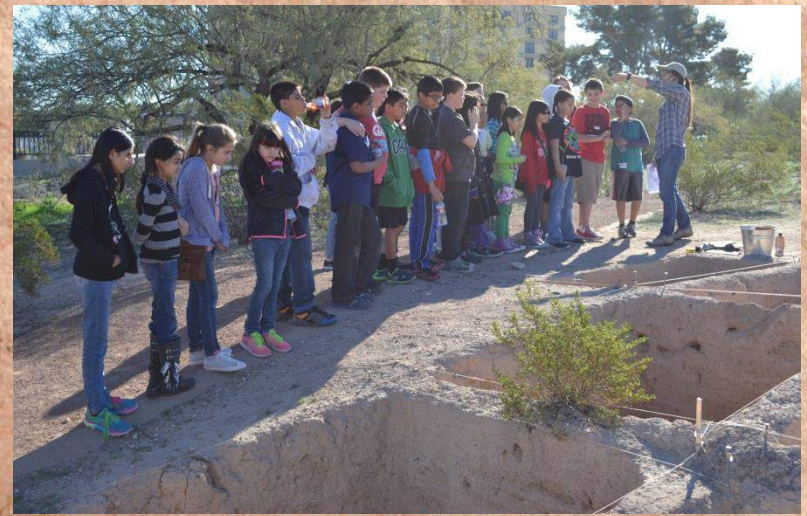
The veranda of the Heritage Center at Mesa Grande. We have accommodated nearly 200 people in one visit.

Trips can be tailored to your specific needs. We will work with you to determine how many groups are needed and how long your program lasts.

Archaeology activities



Students examine a mock excavation unit, complete with artifacts and archaeological features. The unit is gridded and students must map the objects, measure the corn in their unit and determine which time period they are studying.



After a quick guided tour of the mound, led by one of our archaeologists, students are given an explanation of artifacts before they get hands on experience screening and sorting.

Hohokam experience – diet and teeth



A trained biological anthropologist leads the students through a discussion of the similarities and differences between teeth of herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. Students are able to touch real skulls and examine the teeth. We then discuss how and why humans use tools in place of teeth and students try their hand at hunting rabbits in the Hohokam style.

Science Standards

Grade 4

Strand 1: Inquiry Process

Concept 1: Observations, Questions and Hypotheses

PO 3. Formulate predictions in the realm of science based on observed cause and effect relationships.

PO 4. Locate information related to an investigation.

Concept 2: Scientific Testing and Modeling

PO 4. Measure using appropriate tools and units of measure.

Concept 3: Analysis and Conclusions

PO 1. Analyze data obtained in a scientific investigation to identify trends.

PO 2. Formulate conclusions based on identified trends in data.

PO 3. Determine that data collected is consistent with the formulated question.

Concept 4: Communication

PO 1. Communicate verbally or in writing the results of an inquiry.

PO 2. Choose an appropriate graphic representation for data.

PO 3. Communicate with other groups or individuals to compare the results of a common investigation.

Strand 2: History and Nature of Science

Concept 2: Nature of Scientific Knowledge

PO 3. Explain various ways scientists generate ideas.

Strand 3: Science in Personal and Social Perspectives

Concept 1: Changes in Environments

PO 1. Describe how natural events and human activities have positive and negative impacts on environments.

PO 2. Evaluate the consequences of environmental occurrences that happen either rapidly (e.g., fire, flood, tornado) or over a long period of time.

Strand 4: Life Science

Concept 3: Organisms and Environments

PO 1. Describe ways various resources (e.g., air, water, plants, animals, soil) are utilized to meet the needs of a population.

Social Science Standards

Grade 4

Strand 1: American History

Concept 1: Research Skills for History

PO 1. Use timelines and charts to interpret historical data.

PO 3. Locate information using both primary and secondary sources.

PO 4. Describe how archaeological research adds to our understanding of the past.

Concept 2: Early Civilizations

PO 1. Describe the legacy and cultures of prehistoric people in the Americas:

- a. characteristics of hunter-gatherer societies
- b. development of agriculture

PO 2. Describe the culture and contributions of the Hohokam