



*Operation Green Team Presents*

## Play Days at Hays



“Play Days at Hays” will be held in June and July each Tuesday and Thursday from 9 to 11 a.m. at the new Terrame Natural Playground at Hays Nature Preserve.

Sessions are **FREE** and promise to be fun and educational as children, with an adult, explore and learn about the great outdoors.

Tuesday June 7<sup>th</sup>: **Orienteering and Forest Safety** (3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>) Learn the critters and plants in the forest that could harm you. Explorers will also learn how to find their way with a map and compass.

Thursday June 9<sup>th</sup>: **What is Your Name?** (K-6<sup>th</sup>) Students will make tree cookie nametags and play an engaging game of “Animal on My Back” with your fellow explorers. A forest exploration will wrap up the morning fun.

Tuesday June 14<sup>th</sup>: **Wonderful Wacky World of Bugs** (K-6<sup>th</sup>) Be a bug detective and find insects in the forest. Learn the difference between spiders and insects. Observe the aquatic insects in a wetland. Parents and students should bring a clear plastic container with a lid with holes punched in it --- no glass please.

Thursday June 16<sup>th</sup>: **Using Your Senses** (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>) Explorers will challenge their senses of touch and smell to identify different features of nature. The morning’s activities will include a scavenger hunt for things found in the forest.

Tuesday June 21: **Using Your Head** (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>) Sharpen your skills of recognizing different critters using their skulls and fur. Explorers will also challenge their abilities by observing what is going on around them during a “Sit Spot” exercise.

Thursday June 23: **Noah’s Ark** (K-3<sup>rd</sup>) This session will bring the call of the wild to life as children learn and then vocalize animal calls. A fun game of finding your matching animal while blindfolded by making your animal’s call should prove to be great fun! A scavenger hunt will follow.

Tuesday June 28: **Fossil Hunt** (K-3<sup>rd</sup>) Young explorers will be busy during this session as they hunt for fossils at the limestone outcrop, then play “Bats and Gnats”—a food chain game and wrap-up the busy morning with another predator and prey game.

Thursday June 30: **Camouflage Game** (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>) Explorers will hunt in the forest for man-made items hidden and then make a bull roarer.

**Space is limited; call 256-532-5326 to reserve your spot and to get more information.**

**NOTE: For all these events, children should wear old comfortable shoes and play clothes that can get a bit dirty. Don’t forget a bottle of water. Parents please apply your preferred insect repellent on you and your child especially on the lower legs to fend off unwanted insect bites. Children must be accompanied by an adult during the sessions.**

