Welcome - Nahwee
to
Caddo Mounds State Historic Site

More than 1,200 years ago, a group of Caddo Indians known as the Hasinai built a village and ceremonial center on this site. Today, three earthen mounds are still visible. The early Caddo were an agricultural people and the first farmers in this place now called Texas (a word derived from the Caddo word for friend - taysha).

Today, the Caddo Tribal Headquarters are located in Binger, Oklahoma and there are 7000 registered tribal members.

Language is the heart of a culture. In this packet you will be introduced to Caddo language words as a fun way to begin to understand and connect with the Caddo culture.
In your backpack you will find:
- magnifiers
- insect viewers
- binoculars
- plant and insect guides
- drawing supplies

These can all be used to observe and record special plants, animals, rocks and more, while leaving them as you find them and respecting nature.

On the far side of the new museum site, you will see the arched entryway to Snake Woman’s Garden.
For your backpack adventure you will be exploring and learning from the garden.
Leave No Trace

Attached to your back you will find a Leave no Trace card. LNT uses 7 principles to help us be safe and respectful in nature.

1. **KNOW BEFORE YOU GO** is a reminder to be prepared when you go outside,

- **Carry water and drink it!**
  You can color in the water bottle on this page with colorful, creative designs to make it look like yours!

- **Be prepared for the weather!**
  (hat, sunscreen, etc.)
  Remember to return to the museum if weather conditions require shelter.

- **Good walking shoes are helpful.**
  Keep your eyes open and notice where you place your feet and hands.

The garden is the natural home for many insects and other animals. Some particularly bothersome pests are ants and wasps.

There is a small first aid kit in your backpack for use as needed.

It includes wet ones for cleaning, band aids, and a small bottle of baking soda. The baking soda can be used to help with bites and stings. Mix about a teaspoon of baking soda with a drop or two of water to create a paste, and then apply to your skin.

Another remedy comes from the plantain plant. Leaves can be applied to skin irritations, stings, and rashes.
2. Stay with your group and on the paths and trails.

3. Trash you trash! (There is a plastic bag in your backpack for picking up your trash.)

4. Take pictures or make a drawing instead of taking what you find.

5. Be careful with fire!

6. Respect wildlife – keep a safe distance and remember this is their HOME!

7. Be kind to others around you – Listen more than talk.
As you walk toward the garden, you can imagine that you are walking back through history.

Take a moment to look around at the large Burial Mound, the newly constructed Grass House and the Temple Mound across the highway.

The Grass House is the kind of home that the Caddo would have lived in when this was their homeland. Try to imagine what it might have been like to live on these lands, growing and collecting food, hunting, building grass houses, making baskets and pottery, working and celebrating with family and tribal members.

In your backpack there are binoculars that you can use to look at the mounds and make them look closer. Binoculars are also good to use for looking at birds you may see in or around the garden.
Now you are ready to begin your garden adventure!

Your time in the garden is yours to enjoy. There is much to see and do here. Do the activities that interest you and be sure to take time to appreciate and notice the wonders of the garden! The nearby picnic table or the bench at the entrance of the garden are good places to sit for the first activities.

As you look around notice what you see and feel. You can write or draw some of your impressions below.
Meeting Snake Woman  
(Keekah Natee - the Caddo words for Snake Woman)

Read the traditional Caddo story here.

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**Snake Woman Distributes the Seeds**

The Great Father gave the seeds of all growing things to Snake-Woman. He taught her how to plant the seeds and how to care for the green things that grew from them until they were ripe, and then how to prepare them for food.

One time, when Snake-Woman had more seeds than she could possibly care for, she decided to give some to the people. She called her two sons and asked them to help her carry the seeds. Each put a big bag full of seeds on his back, and then they traveled all over the world, giving six seeds of each kind of plant to every person.

As Snake-Woman gave each person the seeds she told him that he must plant them, and must care for the plants that grew from them, but must allow no one, especially children, to touch them or even point to them as they grew. She said that until the seeds were ripe they belonged to her, and if any one gathered them too soon she would send a poisonous snake to bite them.
Learning from Snake Woman’s Story

This story is an important teaching story. Growing plants was essential for the survival of the Caddo people, for food, medicines, material for baskets, etc. Keekah Natee was a wise woman who knew how to care for the plants. The Caddo people were scientists who learned about the plants through observation, trial and error and experimentation.

The story reminds us that this land was a special home to the Caddo people.

Home is a place to live that brings an experience of connection, belonging, doing, and making.

Write three words that describe what home means to you.

1.  
2.  
3.  

The story also reminds us of the strength and resilience of the Caddo people.

Resilience is being able to take care of yourself in changing conditions such as moving to a new place, extreme weather or other unexpected events.

Write two ways you can help yourself feel better or things you can do to be prepared for unexpected events.

1.  
2.  

Write three words that describe what home means to you.

1.  
2.  
3.  

The story also reminds us of the strength and resilience of the Caddo people.
Home in the Garden

As you walk the circle path around the garden, you will see plants that were grown and used by the Caddo at different time periods. Use the Scavenger hunt page to discover some of the plants and animals that have their home in Snake Woman’s Garden. Look closely under the leaves and on stems to find who makes a home in the garden.

Put a check mark next to each animal, plant, or object that you find!
(You may not see all of these today; just do your best.)

- BEE
- DRAGONFLY
- BUTTERFLY
- MOCKINGBIRD
- HUMMINGBIRD
- 3 DIFFERENT FLOWERS
- LARGE ROCK
- INSECT HOMES
- BLACKBERRY VINES
- SEED PODS
- SOFT FEATHERY LEAVES
- RAIN GAGE
- SOMETHING YOU COULD EAT
- SOMETHING THAT SMELLS GOOD

Fill in your own discoveries from your scavenger hunt.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bee</th>
<th>Dahkoo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Butterfly</td>
<td>Bah-noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunflower</td>
<td>Bah’han</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dragonfly</td>
<td>Ba-sheet-an-ambah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hummingbird</td>
<td>Cho-koo-nee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Insects and Pollinators

As you explore the garden you will see evidence of insects and pollinators. Pollinators are insects or birds that drink nectar from flowers and share pollen from one flower to another. This is how seeds are made so more plants can grow.

You can use the nature guidebooks to help you identify pollinators and plants.

Some insects are beneficial (friendly and helpful) to the garden. Other insects are pests (foes and harmful to plants).

We can learn which insects are friends and respect the roles they play, (e.g., predator, member of the food web, pollinator, etc.) instead of just swatting at them or thinking they are yucky and gross.

Insect Friend or Foe Game

1. Let’s play the Friend of Foe game to learn about different kinds of insects. The challenge is to separate the insect game cards into the correct group of friends and foes.

2. Using the insect game cards in your backpack work together to place them in either the Friend or Foe bag.

3. When the task is completed, check the answers on the next page and learn more about these insects from the descriptions provided.
Friends and Foes

Lady Bug

Ground Beetle

Aphid

Mealy Bug

Parasitic Wasp

Slug

Lacewing

Cucumber Beetle

Assassin Beetle

Tomato Horn Worm

Soldier Beetle
FOE - GARDEN PESTS

I am an Aphid.
I am a garden pest.
I eat broccoli plants and kale.
I am eaten by Lady Bugs, Parasitic Wasps, Assassin Bugs, and Soldier Beetles.

I am a Mealy Bug.
I am a garden pest.
I eat the stems of fruit trees.
I am eaten by Parasitic Wasps, Lacewings, and Lady Bugs.

I am a Slug.
I am a garden pest.
I eat leafy vegetables and berries.
I am eaten by Ground Beetles.

I am a Tomato Hornworm.
I am a garden pest.
I eat tomatoes.
I am eaten by Parasitic Wasps, Lady Beetles, Lacewings, and Ground Beetles.

I am a Cucumber Beetle.
I am a garden pest.
I eat cucumbers, melons, and squash.
I am eaten by Lacewings, Assassin Bugs, Soldier Beetles, and Ground Beetles.

FRIENDS - HELPERS/BENEFICIALS

I am a Lady Bug.
I am a garden friend.
I eat Aphids, Mealybugs, Tomato Hornworms and other soft-bodied insects.

I am a Parasitic Wasp.
I am a garden friend.
I eat Aphids, Mealybugs, and Tomato Hornworms.

I am an Assassin Bug.
I am a garden friend.
I eat Aphids and Cucumber Beetles.

I am a Soldier Beetle.
I am a garden friend.
I eat Aphids and Cucumber Beetles.

I am a Ground beetle.
I am a garden friend.
I eat Slugs, Tomato Hornworms, and Cucumber Beetles.

I am a Lacewing.
I am a garden friend.
I eat Mealybugs, Tomato Hornworms, and Cucumber Beetles.
Garden Soil Exploration

The foundation of any garden is the soil. This is the place where the plants sink their roots and make their home. In our gardens we help create healthy soil by adding needed minerals, organic matter, mulch, even animal manure to get the best balance possible.

Every scoop of soil contains millions of living organisms!!

Soil Investigation

You can be a scientific investigator by looking more closely at the soil in the garden.

1. Find the tub and small scoop.
2. Scoop some soil into the tub.
3. Use the magnifiers in your backpack to look closely at the particles of soil, plant material, and decomposers (such as worms, beetles, pill bugs, bacteria)

Don’t be afraid to get your hands dirty.
Always watch for ants !!

How many different kinds of things did you find in the soil?____
Did you see living things like insects, plants, or fungi?____
Did you see organic material like sticks or old food? ____
Did you find the native bee houses located near the compost pile?___
Were there any insects living there?___
GARDEN JOURNAL PAGE

If you know the name of your plant or animal you can write it here or give it your own special name. Use the nature guidebooks to help you. __________________________

Find out an interesting fact about your special friend and write it here. __________________________

Choose a special plant or insect that you saw in the garden today for this journal page.

Thinking about your special plant or insect write a few words about what:

I Saw! __________________________
______________________________
______________________________

I Wonder? __________________________
______________________________
______________________________

It Reminds Me Of: __________________________
______________________________
______________________________

Look closely at the shape, color, and other interesting traits of your special plant or insect and make a drawing below!

What is the weather today? (circle one)

TIME OF DAY: ___________

Choose a special plant or insect that you saw in the garden today for this journal page.

If you know the name of your plant or animal you can write it here or give it your own special name. Use the nature guidebooks to help you. __________________________

Find out an interesting fact about your special friend and write it here. __________________________
In your backpack there is a set of language cards with English and Caddo words to use to play a matching game with your family in the garden.

Here is a set you can cut out and use to play the game at home while you practice saying the Caddo words for these garden/nature words.