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WOLF RUN

# DIGGING HISTORY

Since the first trip to Galveston in 1974, outdoor experiences have played an important role in ESD's Mission, curriculum, and Founding Tenet of Community. ESD's 300-acre campus, Wolf Run Outdoor Education Center, established in 1997, provides a perfect platform for integrated and experiential learning that captures the minds of students and brings classroom curriculum alive. In one of more than 30 annual Wolf Run adventures, young archeologists turn up clothing, buttons, arrowheads, pottery, animal teeth, and more. (This year's dig turned up an old wagon wheel, presumably from a Shields' family baby buggy!) The historical dig gives students the opportunity to combine classroom history lessons with hands-on experience.

"The students get so excited when they find an artifact," Denise Stark, a Middle School history teacher, says. "The dig brings out their curiosity and desire to learn about the past. It inspires questions about the Shields family who lived at Wolf Run and what their lifestyle was like."

Started more than a decade ago, this experience helps students develop an interest in ancient civilizations and understand the different methods used by historians and archaeologists. Dr. Randy Moir, a professional historic preservation archaeologist, assists with the dig and teaches students about what they will find and how to excavate artifacts correctly. Before and during the dig, students also learn how artifacts are recorded and preserved in different historical contexts.

The archeology trip is one of several history-based projects made possible by Wolf Run Outdoor Education Center. For more information, please visit [www.esdallas.org/outdooreducation](http://www.esdallas.org/outdooreducation).

