

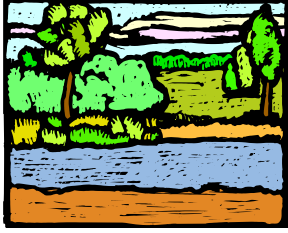
## Bayou Studies Post-Trip Activities

We hope you enjoyed your trip to Armand Bayou Nature Center! Use these ideas to further students' learning now that you are back in the classroom.

- ✓ Reflect on your visit to Armand Bayou. Ask students to describe their favorite parts of the trip and to recall some facts and concepts they learned.
- ✓ Revisit questions or topics from the pre-trip activities, such as students' note card questions or online pre-trip quizzes. (You will also find that most pre-trip activities work as post-trip activities.)
- ✓ Engage students in an extension activity such as one of the following:
  - If you collected data, make charts or graphs to analyze it. Did you see much diversity in the bayou? What do your observations tell you about the health of the bayou? What steps can you and your families take to improve the health of the bayou?
  - Speculate about what the bayou would look like in a different season. How might a higher or lower tide affect it? Research how such factors change the bayou ecosystem.
  - Research a bayou organism. Provide factual information about the species, and answer questions such as the following: Is it a native species? Invasive? Does it live only in an estuary environment or elsewhere? Why is it important (or harmful) to a bayou ecosystem?
  - Create a dichotomous key of some of the organisms you found in the bayou.
  - Make a slideshow presentation, video, or website about Armand Bayou. You might include photos from your trip and descriptions of what you saw or did.
  - Fill out the *Bayou Studies Evaluation Sheet* (on the following page) as a class, in small groups, or individually. Discuss your answers. Answers will vary but may include:
    1. tides (which are mostly dependent on winds), precipitation (in any part of the watershed leading to the bayou), temperature of the water
    2. most productive ecosystem on earth; habitat for a variety of plants and animals, including young ocean animals; migration stopover; filters out some pollutants; provides some flood/weather protection; source of human food, recreation, and employment
    3. Descriptions of color, smell, temperature, salinity, pH, or turbidity are all appropriate answers.
    4. Answers will vary.
    5. litter/trash, subsidence, man-made structures, etc.

***Thanks for visiting Armand Bayou Nature Center!***





## Bayou Studies Evaluation

Use observations and experiences from your visit to Armand Bayou Nature Center to help answer these questions.

1. Name three factors that affect the salinity of Armand Bayou.
2. List at least three major reasons estuarine habitats are important.
3. Qualitatively and quantitatively describe the water of Armand Bayou.
4. List and briefly describe five animals you saw at Armand Bayou.
5. What influences of man were evident at Armand Bayou?

