



Natural Areas Tour for Grades 6 to 8

Description: Participants learn about South Florida's native peoples while hiking through the Tropical Hardwood Hammock to one of the last Tequesta Indian burial mounds in existence.

Maximum Number of Participants: 30

Duration: 1 ½ hours

Summary: Hike from main gate along original Ingram Highway/Cutler Road (main hammock trail). Pause to identify key plant species. Discuss plants' roles in the habitat and ethnobotanical uses. Stop at the Tequesta Indian burial mound to talk about the indigenous peoples of Florida and examine Tequesta artifacts. Return to main grounds.

Objectives: The purpose of this activity is to introduce students to the Tropical Hardwood Hammock and the Native Americans who lived and hunted there. At the end of this activity, students will know

- Details about the different native peoples that have dwelled at the Deering Estate including Paleo-Indians, Tequestas, and Seminole Indians.
- How to identify key plants and animals of the Tropical Hardwood Hammock
- Ethnobotanical uses of certain native plant species

Benchmarks: SC.G.1.2, SC.G.2.2, SS.A.6.2

Vocabulary: aboriginal, adz, artifact, celt, columella, emigration, epidemic, indigenous, midden, Tequesta/Tekesta

Additional Resources:

<http://www.historical-museum.org/archaeology/archaeology.htm>

http://www.sfrc.ufl.edu/4h/Ecosystems/Tropical_Hammocks/tropical_hammocks.html

<http://www.sfrc.ufl.edu/Extension/ffws/ecosfr.htm>

http://www.sfrc.ufl.edu/4h/Other_Resources/Contest/Highlighted_Ecosystem_II/tropham_index.htm