

# **Buddy Bison Goes to Smithville Lake**



On September 21, 50 students from Winnwood Elementary School in Kansas City, Missouri traveled to the urban preserve of Smithville Lake. U.S. Army Corps Ranger Jim put on a show, entertaining and educating the kids about the lake and the animals that inhabit the area. The kids were able to touch animal pelts, bones and even skulls! Clay County wildlife biologists brought many living reptiles and amphibians for the children to learn from and touch. One student said, "I never had so much fun in a park before". The best part about places like Smithville Lake is that they give everyone the opportunity to get away from the city and back to nature. In addition to wildlife watching, you can boat and fish at the lake.









# **Smithville Lake**

Kelsey Short Youth Camp 17980 Collins Rd, Smithville, MO 64809

<u>Date</u>: Friday, September 21<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Time: 10:00am-1:40pm

**Shool**: Winnwood Elementary

4531 N.E. 44th Terrace Kansas City, MO 64117

5<sup>th</sup> grade; 49 students



### Timeline-

10:00-10:45 – Arrive and split into 4 groups 10:45-11:55 – First rotation of activities 11:55-12:25 – Lunch at pavilion

12:30-1:40 - Second rotation of activities

## **Trip Details**

- NPT, HEROS, Clay County and US Army Corps will welcome the students when they arrive
  - o Each student will receive a backpack filled with school supplies, BB t-shirt, and BB pint size mascot
- Each activity will be 30 minutes with 5 minutes to travel to the next activity. Volunteers will help move students from one activity to another.

### **Rotation**:

Activities	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
Amphibians	10:45-11:15	1:05-1:35	12:30-1:00	11:20-11:50
US Army Corps	11:20-11:50	10:45-11:15	1:05-1:35	12:30-1:00
Reptiles	12:30-1:00	11:20-11:50	10:45-11:15	1:05-1:35
Nature Hike	1:05-1:35	12:30-1:00	11:20-11:50	10:45-11:15

# **Driving Questions:**

- What effect do humans have on Earth's water?
- What is your effect on the environment?
- Can you make a difference in saving your environment?

#### Ranger Program:

**US Army Corps**: Students will learn about the lake's purpose (recreation, water supply, and flood control). They will also learn about the US Army Corps, how humans affect the lake, and animals that inhabit the area. The Corps Ranger will have pelts and skulls from animals found near the lake.

Nature Hike/ Trail Restoration: Learn about the wild habitat of Smithville Lake while walking through a nature trail.

**Reptile/ Amphibian**: Get up close and personal with reptiles and amphibians. Learn about both native and invasive species.