

# LEEP: Linville Environmental Education Program

**LEEP, the Linville Environmental Education Program, provides laboratory and field experience to elementary-school students from the Sweeny Independent School District. The program is sponsored by ConocoPhillips, a manufacturer and refiner of petrochemicals. The program meets at the company's refining facility in Old Ocean, Texas.**

**Cradle of Texas members who have knowledge in these areas act as instructors and laboratory assistants.**

Photos by COT Chapter Members



Anna Hay (2001), Mary Helen Israel (2001), Carolyn May-Monie (2002)



The bus arrives





Carolyn welcomes the group



Animal Tracks with Phil Huxford and Carolyn May-Monie



Keith Ramos of USFWS leads the group across the bridge over Little Linnville Bayou



Phil Huxford's animal pelt collection



Phil Huxford's animal pelt collection



Phil explains pelts to a student



Maurice Monie shows the group a snake



Maurice Monie shows the group a snake





Tracie Teague leads the group across the bridge





Tracie shows the group a small wildflower

Linnville Environmental Education Program (LEEP) Pilot Year Completed  
By Tracie Teague, Certified Texas Master Naturalist

OLD OCEAN, TEXAS – June 1, 2007. The first-year pilot program of the Linnville Environmental Education Program (LEEP) at the Little Linnville Wetland and Wildlife Habitat has been completed. The program was developed for Sweeny Intermediate School District by Texas Master Naturalists from Mid-Coast and Cradle of Texas Chapters in conjunction with ConocoPhillips. Students ranged in age from 3 (Pre-K) to 5th grade.

Pre-K through Fifth-grade programs were developed according to TEKS for each grade, and for each grade a completely different program was created. The focus was age-appropriate hands-on environmental education that reinforced classroom learning. Preliminary reports indicate the overall program was an outstanding success.

LEEP goals were reached with the help of Bryan Adams (USFWS Texas Mid-Coast National Wildlife Refuge Complex), Keith Ramos (Refuge Complex), Sharon Hanzik (Brazos Bend State Park), Mark Hanson (Director of Brazoria County Park Department), Carol Jones (Gulf Coast Bird Observatory), Cherie Allen (Gulf Coast Wildlife Rescue), and Ray Olachia (Native American). Cradle of Texas members Ed Barrios, Marty Cornell, Al Brushwood, Bob Schwebel, Kirby Rapstein, Roy Morgan, Anna Hay, Rainbo Johnson, Mary Helen Israel, Jerry Krampota, Jerry Eppner, Gerald Forest, Ruby Lewis, Rich Tillman, Mickey Dufilho, Tom Morris, Georgia Monnerat, Carl Dodson, and Phil Huxford were essential to the success of the program. Mid-Coast Chapter Members Tracie Teague, Paul and Mary Meredith and John O'Connell were especially vital to the project. Special thanks to Maurice Monie for his invaluable help as well as Johnny, Wilkie, and James from ConocoPhillips.



Maurice Monie demonstrates animal tracks



Animal Tracks