



September 2020

Dear Parents,

We are writing to you from the beautiful Arroyo Hondo Nature Preserve on the Gaviota coast. During normal school years, we provide natural history programs for classes from local schools. Due to Covid 19, most schools will not have class field trips in the near future.

We now want to invite families and other groups with school age children to enjoy a new educational activity at Arroyo Hondo. We have made a one-way Self Guided Nature Trail along which you can learn about the ecology of our beautiful canyon. As you walk through grassland, woodland, and chaparral, and along Arroyo Hondo Creek, you will learn about local habitats, native plants, animals, and geology. We hope that you will come and have a fun and educational experience together.

The written Trail Guide includes walking directions and background information for parents or teachers who lead children along the trail. For each stop, we give questions to ask the children, as well as suggested answers.

Groups with school age children can register to visit on Mondays and Wednesdays from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Registration is on a first come, first serve basis with a maximum of 30 people allowed at the preserve at any time. You can make a reservation for your group online at [arroyohondoschooltours.makeplans.net](http://arroyohondoschooltours.makeplans.net)

Groups should arrive in their own cars and observe social distancing from other groups. Face masks must be worn when you pass close to other groups on the trail.

Before your visit, please remember to go [sblandtrust.org](http://sblandtrust.org) and click on Arroyo Hondo Preserve. From here you will be able to download:

- Self Guided Nature Trail Guide (English and Spanish versions)
- Map for Self-Guided Trail
- *The Nature of Arroyo Hondo* – a colorful slide show
- Glossary of terms used along the trail

Wi-Fi is not available at the preserve, so you will need to print the trail guide in advance or download it to a hand-held device.

Wear strong shoes and bring drinking water, a snack, sunscreen, and a hat.

We hope we will see you soon at Arroyo Hondo Preserve.

Sincerely,

John Warner & Jennifer Dunn, Preserve Managers  
Sally Isaacson, Education Coordinator