

Dear Mr. Adams and members of Spencer County Board of Education,

Stephanie Sanford and I would like to request to permission to travel to Squire Boone Caverns in Indiana for a field trip. The reason we feel Squire Boone Caverns is a great choice for a fourth grade field trip because it has both a Pioneer Village and a cavern. The educational value will be double due to the connection with Social Studies and Science. The core content that would be reinforced from our curriculum is as follows:

Social Studies:

***SS-04-2.1.1***

*Students will identify early cultures (Native American, Appalachian, pioneers) in Kentucky and explain their similarities and differences. DOK 2*

***SS-04-2.3.1***

*Students will describe various forms of interactions (compromise, cooperation, conflict) that occurred during the early settlement of Kentucky between diverse groups (Native Americans, early settlers). DOK 2*

***SS-04-4.4.1***

*Students will explain and give examples of how people adapted to/modified the physical environment (e.g., natural resources, physical geography, natural disasters) to meet their needs during the history of Kentucky and explain its impact on the environment today. DOK 3*

***SS-04-4.4.2***

*Students will describe how the physical environment (e.g., mountains as barriers or protection, rivers as barriers or transportation) both promoted and restricted human activities during the early settlement of Kentucky. DOK 2*

Science:

***SC-04-4.6.1***

*Students will analyze patterns and make generalizations about the basic relationships of plants and animals in an ecosystem (food chain).*

*Plants make their own food. All animals depend on plants. Some animals eat plants for food. Other animals eat animals that eat the plants. Basic relationships and connections between organisms in food chains, including the flow of energy, can be used to discover patterns within ecosystems. DOK 2*

***SC-04-4.7.1***

*Students will make predictions and/or inferences based on patterns of evidence related to the survival and reproductive success of organisms in particular environments.*

*The world has many different environments. Distinct environments support the lives of different types of organisms. When the environment changes some plants and animals survive and reproduce and others die or move to new locations. Examples of environmental changes resulting in either increase or decrease in numbers of a particular organism should be explored in order to discover patterns and resulting cause and effect relationships between organisms and their environments (e.g., structures and behaviors that make an organism suited to a particular environment). Connections and conclusions should be made based on the data. DOK 3*

*\*\*\*Other Content not individually outlined in Core Content: Chemical Changes, Rocks, and Cavern Formation*

We looked for a similar place in Kentucky but there is not a location that offers both content connections. For this reason, we are requesting permission to travel to Indiana for this education and valuable experience for our fourth graders. Please honor our request.

Sincerely,  
Melissa Mallory