Swamped by fun

Bluebonnet Swamp teaches outdoors in the middle of BR

By ED CULLEN

The soft, wet floor of the Bluebonnet Swamp reads like a registration book.

"You can see where an alligator snapping turtle dragged its body along," said Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center Director Greg Grandy from the safety of the boardwalk.

The long period of little rain had the swamp as dry as Grandy had ever seen it.

Look closely and you can see the tracks of deer, raccoon, bobcat and armadillo, Grandy said.

In the Nature Center, at the head of the boardwalk and trails, there are snakes, lizards, frogs and a small alligator. Children peer into the glass cages as their parents read the printed signs.

"When I say we're going to Bluebonnet Swamp, the girls squeal," said Trenton Grand, visiting the Nature Center with daughters Caroline, 4, and Sarah, 2.

Now, I don't know if that has anything to do with the Cheetos and Cokes they get from the machine or not.

"We've been here so often that I joined the Bluebonnet Swamp Foundation. We come here three or four times a month."

Some of the people who come to walk the trails for exercise get memberships, Grandy said.

"They don't even come in. They just flash their membership cards as they go by," he said.

Trenton Grand shows daughters Caroline, 4, and Sarah, 2, some of the exhibits on one of the ‘touchables’ tables in the Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center.

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