

COLO-ROAD
TRIPS
-K TO 5TH GRADE-
EDUCATIONAL ITINERARIES

EXPLORE OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM. LEARN INSIDE OUR STATE.

Extra Credit Activity

Paint Mines Interpretive Park

Spend an afternoon, enjoying the colorful landscape at [Paint Mines Interpretive Park](#). Be certain to pick up a [brochure and map](#) to learn about the history of the area. Interpretive panels found along the four miles of trails also share the geological history of this natural wonder. For additional information, view this [video](#) on the park..

Background: Protected by El Paso County, the colorful clays from the mines have been used by American Indians to paint their pots. Artifacts, such as arrowheads formed from selenite, have been found in the area as well. The gullies were used by the Native Americans to herd buffalo in for hunting. The hiking in this 750-acre area is relatively easy and with so much unbelievable beauty, makes this a great get away.

Word Alert

Hoodoos—thin spires of softer rocks topped with a harder rock

Clay—a type of fine-grained soil

Selenite—gypsum that occurs as transparent crystals.

Gulley—a landform created by water eroding the soil

Activity: After your visit to the Paint Mines Interpretive Park, demonstrate how much you remember by completing a crossword puzzle.

[K-2 Grade crossword puzzle](#)

[K-2 Grade crossword puzzle answer key](#)

[3-5 Grade crossword puzzle](#)

[3-5 Grade crossword puzzle answer key](#)