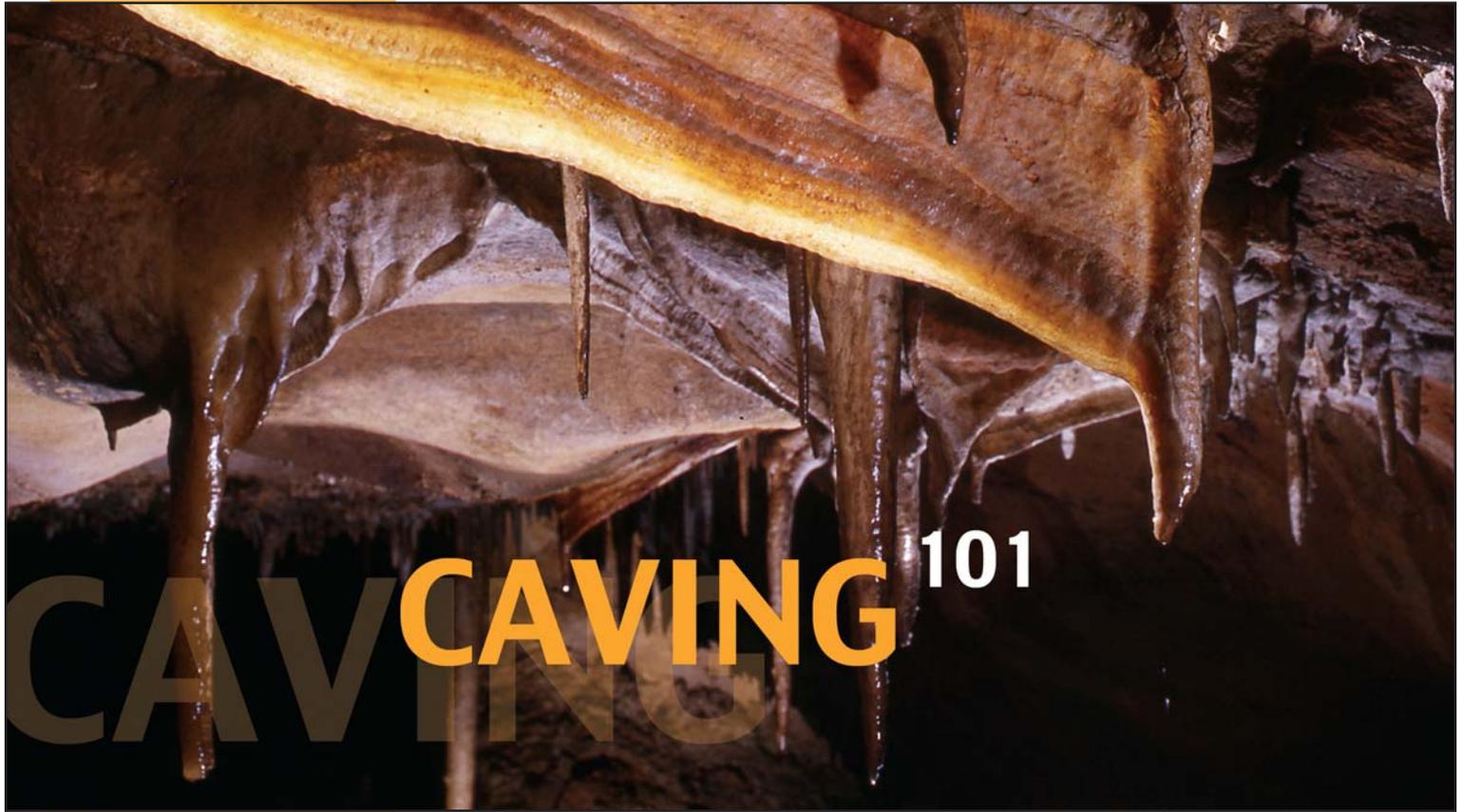


Student Overview of the Geo|Venture for Grades 9–12



TAKE A
GEO|VENTURE

Caving 101 is just that—an interactive introduction into what caving is all about. You'll explore massive, tall caverns and dark, tight caves where the general public is not allowed. You'll be challenged and thrilled as you learn more about caves, cave science and the basics of caving safely.

Once at the entrance to the tunnels leading into the historic Manitou Grand Caverns, the guide will stop and regroup. From here on you'll need use of your flashlight as there is no other light source for the remainder of the time. So, note to self—don't forget the flashlight!

The tour proceeds down Windy Passage, where guides will often have small groups crawl into side areas to start exploring how to negotiate tight cave spaces.

The tour then moves into the Manitou Grand Caverns where a number of gritty, hands-on caving experiences take place, including climbing down into a pristine cave area entered only by a few select groups. You'll also get to navigate a cave tunnel as a group — expect a few surprises.

We ask that you come prepared to try anything, and that you're ready to be safe both with your peers and the cave. The cave areas you'll be in are still active and considered "alive." But even something so much as a quick touch of your fingertip will kill them—

the oils on your hands will stop the cave from forming further in that spot. And a fun push from a buddy can knock you into a formation that might be broken off. We're committed to keeping our cave preserved in its natural state, so you need to help us out by being careful.

The Geo|Venture will take up to 2 hours, including time for shopping. Since the cave is 54 degrees year-round, you should wear warm layers that can get dirty.

Here's your checklist of what to bring:

1. **Flashlight.** You are going into the dark; without your flashlight, you can't see where you are, where you're going or how to get out... Okay, we might be trying to freak you out here, because nobody is going to get left in the cave. But please remember your flashlight!
2. **A Change of Clothes.** You will get dirty and muddy. Both for your own comfort and a consideration of the vehicle you'll be riding home in, you want something clean and dry to change into when done.
3. **A Good Attitude.** You will most likely have at least a few moments where you're not sure if you can do it. Trust us, we're not going to ask you to do anything or take you anywhere that is not safe and possible. Just be prepared to try.
4. **A Watchful Eye on Friends and the Cave.** Let's keep both your peers and the cave formations safe by showing up ready to be careful. Because cave and human safety is such a vital issue in caving, the tour length will be dependant on good student/group behavior.

TAKE A
GEO|VENTURE

