## Art of Nature:

The Art of Nature camps were inspired by the need for increased outdoor experiences for our children. "Nature Deficit Disorder" is a phrase coined by author Richard Louv and refers to the fact that children today spend more and more time indoors and therefore have less of a concept of their natural surroundings and the importance of caring for our earth.

Campers spend their days in activities such as canoeing or fishing on the Concho River, creating learnscapes, hiking, hearing about native plants from a local botanist, creating community art from nature, visiting the Farmer's Market and creating healthy snacks. Campers are integrated with technology, science, art and more interdisciplinary studies with specialists from Angelo State University. By not only experiencing our local natural environment, but also reflecting on their own role in caring for our planet through visual art projects, these campers are immersed in this valuable intersection of art and science.

Dates and Age Groups:

June 6 - 10 Concho Clay (7-9yr olds)

June 13 – 17 River Rat Art (7-9yr olds)

June 20- 24 Concho Clay (10-12yr olds)

June 27- July 1 River Rat Art (10-12yr olds)

Art of Nature: Concho Clay

7-9 year olds June  $6^{th} - 10^{th}$  and 10-12 year olds June  $20^{th} - 24^{th}$ 

The Concho River runs through the heart of San Angelo and through the museum's backyard. Campers will explore the Concho River with canoe rides and various outdoor adventures. Campers will explore and create with SAMFA's NEW Concho Clay Studio working alongside a variety of local ceramic artists.

**Key themes:** explore and map the Concho River, create portraiture & ceramic art including meeting and working with local artists and musicians

Art of Nature: River Rat Art

7-9 year olds June 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> and 10-12 year olds June 27<sup>th</sup> – July 1<sup>st</sup>
The Concho River's flora and fauna, or plant life and wildlife, is fascinating to observe and study Campers will explore local eco-systems in the museum's backyard, fish along the Concho and see, touch and hold local wildlife critters. Campers will use elements of nature and art to create projects all week long.

**Key themes:** West Texas biodiversity, elements of art and nature, local and invasive wildlife/plants, ceramic art, non-point water pollution, studying Physics and entomology with higher education mentors