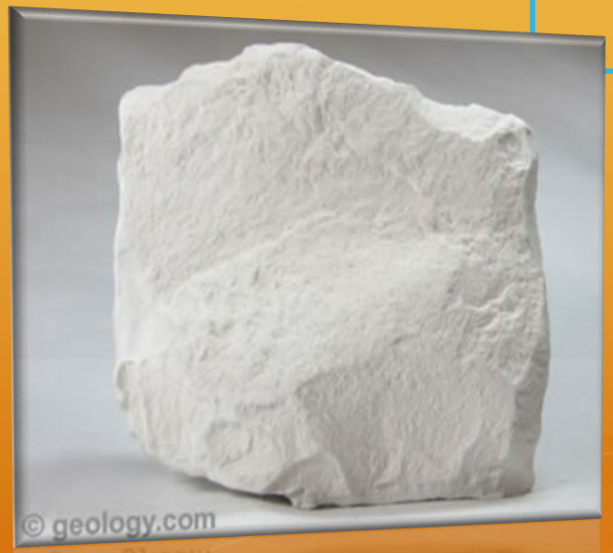
LIMESTONE CAVES

$H_2O_{(l)} + CO_{2(g)} \rightarrow H_2CO_{3(aq)}$

Rain + air $\rightarrow H_2CO_3$

H_2CO_3 dissolves $CaCO_3$ or calcite from limestone and redeposits it to form what appears to be rock icicles.



Limestone prior to calcite being dissolved by carbonic acid.

H_2CO_3

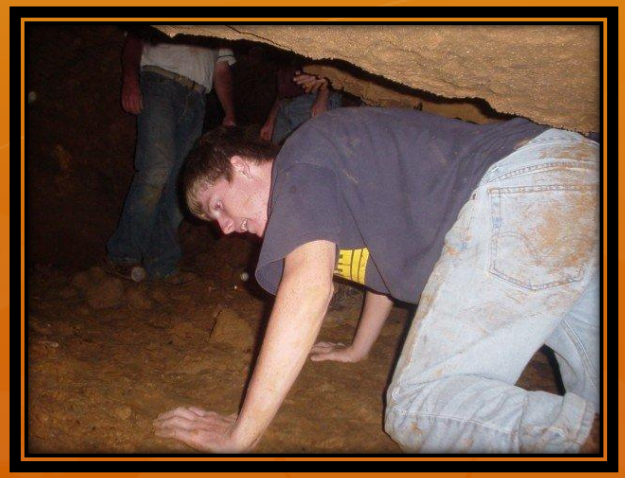
Stalagmites and stalactites in a cave located in Stone County, Onia, AR. Stalagmites originate from the floors of caves while stalactites originate from the ceilings.

Caves provide bats with protection from their predators and for a nocturnal atmosphere

T. Caston, 2011

Caves are common in Stone County Arkansas due to the abundance of limestone.

Caves can have cavities large enough for people to stand or small enough to where people must crawl. The cavities are formed in the same manner as the stalagmites.



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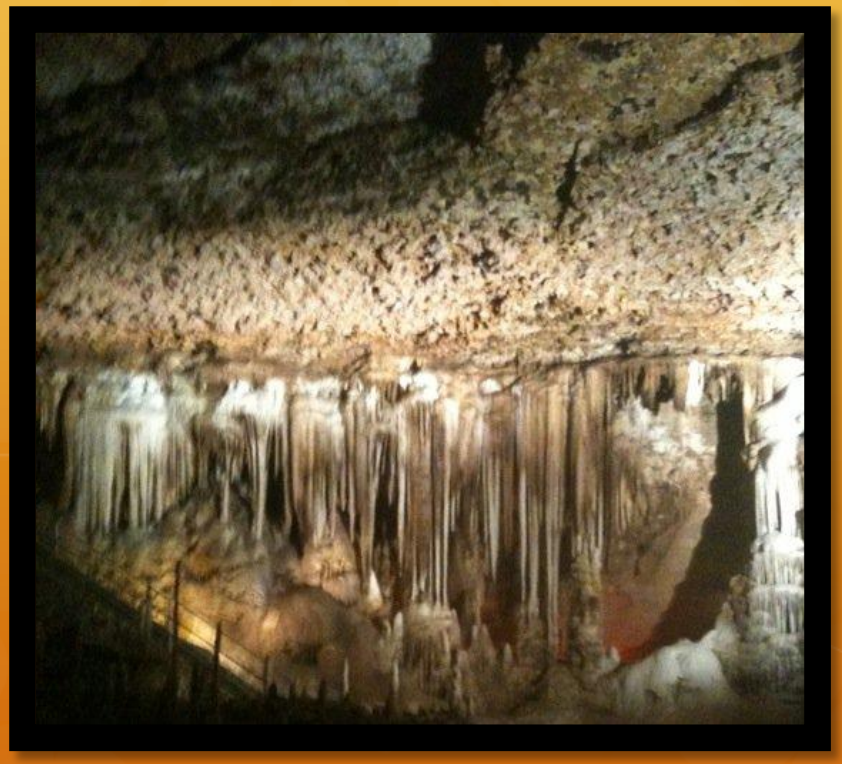

Inside Blanchard Springs Caverns Stone County Arkansas. Blanchard Springs is in the St. Francis National Forest and receives visitors throughout the year.