NEW JERSEY STATE MUSEUM

FIELD TRIP PLANNING GUIDE • SCHOOL YEAR 2018-2019
LEARNING LABS &  
STUDIO EXPERIENCES

Advance reservations are required.  
Length: 45 minutes  
Cost: $3 per student  
Group Size: 15-30 per workshop session.  
Groups larger than 30 students may be split to rotate through workshops and other activities.

Digging for Dinosaurs • Grades 2-7
Join a mock dig and excavate real fossils! Young paleontologists reconstruct a model dinosaur skull, discovering and interpreting evidence of New Jersey’s prehistoric past. After your workshop, visit the Paleo Lab and explore “Written in the Rocks: Fossil Tales of New Jersey.”

Earthquakes • Grades 4-10
Shake things up in this earth science lab with an engineering twist. Digging into earthquakes and plate tectonics, teams undertake an engineering design challenge, building and testing seismometers.

Wide World of Weather • Grades K-4
Explore Earth’s dynamic weather and climate patterns, projected onto our Magic Planet, and experience fascinating weather phenomena up close.

Hearth & Home • Grades 4-8
Imagine yourself in an environment rich with resources and dangers. How do you construct a safe home? This design challenge workshop draws on the culture of the Delaware Lenape to explore how natural resources shape daily life.

Lenape Artistic Traditions • Grades 1-5
Discover how the artistry and designs reflected in objects created by Delaware Lenape people express their community’s history and ideals. Students explore examples of Lenape art, discuss what makes a culture, and try their hand at traditional basket weaving.
Dino Motion
What can we learn from a footprint? Discover how dinosaurs and marine reptiles navigated through their environment as we combine art, imaginative play and real fossils. Your “herd” of young paleontologists will even create a life-sized dinosaur trackway!

Paint Me a Story
Art and storytelling go hand in hand. Children explore the “American Perspectives” gallery and discover the stories that paintings tell through color, themes and feelings. Children end the session in the studio using real art materials and tools to paint their own unique story.

Stars and Shapes Forever
Introduce young children to our solar system and our galaxy! Meet stars of all sizes and colors, model our solar system with creative play, and make a stellar craft. Be sure to reserve one of our Planetarium shows to pair with this workshop (additional fees apply).

Discovery Den
Visit our natural sciences play space, designed just for children pre-K through 3rd grade. Explore nature in New Jersey through touchable specimens, games, books, puppets, costumes and more! Maximum 15 students at one time with adult supervision in this self-guided space.

Reservations & Information: (609) 292-1382 or email reservations.njsm@sos.nj.gov • www.StateMuseum.NJ.gov
The Power of Place: Archaeology in New Jersey

Explore and compare unique artifacts, geography and environments of different New Jersey archaeological sites with our own archaeologist, Dr. Gregory Lattanzi. Students will build an understanding of how prehistoric humans interacted with their world.

Fossil Hunters in New Jersey

New Jersey abounds with fossils – its rocks represent 80 percent of the Earth’s history since life began! Our scientists share exciting local discoveries, what fossils tell us about ancient ecosystems, and all of the challenges they face in this adventurous field. Prepare your students with answers to the most frequently asked paleontology questions! You’ll find 10 fascinating videos in the Ask the Experts section of our website: www.statemuseum.nj.gov

Skype a Scientist

We are excited to announce that our Assistant Curator, Dr. Dana Ehret, is participating in this online program to connect scientists with classrooms. To sign up, access the teacher form here: https://www.skypeascientist.com/ and be sure to check the box for Geologist to connect with Dr. Ehret!

Paleo Lab

Take a peek at our latest fossil discoveries! Follow the progress of our scientists and volunteers, preparing fossil specimens from sites in New Jersey, Wyoming and Montana. We invite you to ask questions and observe their work. Open to the public every day.

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Objects Count: A Decade of Collecting at the New Jersey State Museum
October 6, 2018—April 28, 2019

See a caribou antler from Ice Age New Jersey, a 1930s flight suit from a South Jersey female pilot, Native American projectile points and much more. Individually, each object tells a story; together they remind us of the unique world in which we live.

Crocs Rule!
March 2—September 8, 2019

The ancestors of crocodiles and alligators evolved over 200,000,000 years ago. Since then, croc species have adapted to meet changing environmental pressures, allowing them to survive and dominate in aquatic ecosystems.

Join us to discover how New Jersey’s fossil record chronicles this remarkable 200 million year success story.

Guided Gallery Tours

Guided tours explore NJ History, American Art and Artists, Natural Science or the Lenape in NJ. Tours are FREE, advanced reservations are required. 15 students minimum; groups larger than 25 students may be split to rotate through tours and other activities.

Homeschools

Homeschool groups of 15 students or more are invited to schedule learning labs, studio experiences, early learning programs, tours and Planetarium shows. No minimum group size is required for Thursday Theater performances. Advanced reservations and payment required; the same fees and cancellation policies apply to school and homeschool groups.

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MARCH 21
Academy of Natural Sciences: Animals with Bad
Reputations  Slimy? Scary? Sneaky? Separate fact from fiction in
this investigation of fascinating animals that are often misunderstood.
Before or after the show, visit the “Crocs Rule” exhibit on Level 1.
Appropriate for Grades 1-12

APRIL 4
Mad Science: Wacky Science  This 45-minute special
event features several different aspects of science. The audience will learn
what a polymer is and will get to watch a brave volunteer make a giant
batch of Slime with their bare hands! They will also be amazed as the
Mad Scientist uses science to melt the ‘Wicked Witch of the West’ right
before their eyes. Next, the children will learn about static electricity from
demonstrations with a Van der Graaf generator. We round off the event
with exciting dry ice demonstrations. Appropriate for Grades K-6

APRIL 11
Box of Light: Earth Days, the Water Cycle  Using the
format of Box of Light’s humorous theatrical science shows, this program
looks at water as a molecule. Students explore the way water transforms,
moves, carries good things and bad, and basically sustains all life on
earth. The performance is dripping with audience participation and
student helpers become Knights and Ladies of the Aquifer (basically,
they get hit on the head with a wet sponge). Appropriate for Grades K-5

APRIL 18
Rob Aptaker: Tales from Turtle Island  Many Native
Americans refer to North America as Turtle Island. Storyteller Rob
Aptaker shares traditional Native tales, including Earth on Turtle’s Back
(Iroquois), The Coming of Stories (Lenape), and more. Voices, gestures,
animal sounds, and audience participation help bring the characters to
life, along with authentic Native American songs accompanied by drum
and rattle. Historic and cultural background information is woven into
each tale to give context as students learn about the various tribal nations
and their compelling stories. Appropriate for Grades K-6

MAY 9
Academy of Natural Sciences: Discovering
Dinosaurs  How do we know what dinosaurs were like? Were other
animals alive at the same time as the dinosaurs? How were they similar
to animals that are still alive today? Learn the answers to the puzzles
of paleontology by examining fossils and participating in engaging
interactives. Appropriate for Grades 1-6

MAY 16
Star Tours: Explore the Mysteries of the Universe!
Explore our solar system, the particulars of space travel, the discoveries
of Galileo, and more! Join our top-notch crew on a hilarious and
informative trip through the universe. Their mission? To seek out new
worlds and civilizations, to boldly go where no one has gone before, and
to teach kids a whole lot about outer space before school is over.
Appropriate for Grades K-6

MAY 23
Mad Science: Marvels of Motion  Come one, come all…
to the Mad Science Physics Olympics! This interactive event is all about
the fun-damentals of moving science including Newton’s 3 Laws of
Motion and all sorts of surprises including dancing, chemically assisted
football tossing, and even amazing “space-age” rocket packs. Children
will have a chance to compete in wacky events, while the mad scientists
prepare to unveil their top-secret motion machine. Come and discover
the science behind some of your favorite Olympic sports and find out
why this show is such a “blast!” Appropriate for Grades K-6

JUNE 6
Hip Hop Fundamentals: Civil Rights Movements
This ground-breaking assembly focuses on student involvement in the
American Civil Rights movement through dance, audience participation,
and a variety of interactive activities. They tackle racism, segregation,
and the struggle for freedom in a safe, family friendly atmosphere of Hip Hop.
Students hear the words of Dr. King, learn how nonviolent direct action
helped end segregation, and experience firsthand the power of unity and
diversity. Appropriate for Grades 2-12
Wildest Weather in the Solar System
Grades 2-12
Fly through the thick atmosphere of Venus, magnetic storms on the sun, liquid methane showers on Titan, and a raging 400-year-old hurricane on Jupiter. You’ll be glad you live on Earth!

Dinosaurs at Dusk
Grades 2-12
Travel back to the time of dinosaurs with teenage pilot Lucy and her father, in search of the ancestors of modern birds, and the origins of flight.

Dark Universe
Grades 7-12
Unravel the complexities of the cosmos with Neil deGrasse Tyson as your guide! Plunge into Jupiter’s atmosphere and explore the mysteries of dark matter and dark energy in this spectacular show.

One World, One Sky
Grades pre-K-1
Join Sesame Street’s Big Bird, Elmo and their Chinese friend Hu Hu Zhu on a discovery of the sun, moon and stars!

Magic Tree House: Space Mission
Grades K-4
Based on the book series by Mary Pope Osborne. Adventure through space with brother-sister team of Jack and Annie….and their Magic Tree House!

Earth, Moon & Sun
Grades 2-5
Our most popular show! Explore the science and the mythology of our solar system, with the help of the amusing Coyote (adapted from Native American oral traditions).

All presentations include a live New Jersey sky talk. For a complete list of available shows, including trailers, visit our website: www.statemuseum.nj.gov
GENERAL INFORMATION

ADMISSION
General admission is FREE for school groups.
Planetarium shows and most Education experiences are each just $3 per participant; guided gallery tours are FREE. Advance reservations are required for all programs, free and fee-based.

LUNCH PLANS
Lunch space is available by reservation in the Museum's Riverview Court on a first-come, first-served basis. A limited number of picnic tables are also available outside the Museum on a first-come, first-served basis. Lunch time should be scheduled at the time of booking.

LOCATION
The New Jersey State Museum is located at 205 West State Street in Trenton, NJ, within walking distance of the New Jersey State House and Old Barracks Museum.

CONTACT US
For information & reservations, call Jeffrey Arico at (609) 292-1382 or email Reservations.NJSM@sos.nj.gov
Open Tuesday-Sunday 9:00 am to 4:45 pm

www.statemuseum.nj.gov