

FIELD TRIP GUIDE

2023 - 2024



205 WEST STATE STREET
TRENTON, NJ 08608



Inspiration. On display.

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WELCOME

OUR MISSION

The New Jersey State Museum is a center for the exploration of science, history, and the arts. We preserve and share stories that inspire curiosity and creativity for the enrichment of our communities.



SCIENCE, HISTORY, ART

It's all under one roof! Explore prehistoric fossils, discover New Jersey's first people, learn about New Jersey history, and immerse yourself in art spanning three centuries.

To see more about our galleries, visit statemuseum.nj.gov

RULES & RESERVATIONS



When you call or email our reservation line, please have the following information ready:

- Desired date of visit and one alternate date.
- Number of students and adults (chaperones & teachers) attending.
- Arrival and departure time (Your day will start with a Museum Welcome 10-15 minutes before your first program).
- Programs you are interested in (If you aren't sure, we can help create your day).

Things to know:

- We require at least one chaperone for every 10 students.
- Groups arriving late will be accommodated to the best of our ability. However, we are unable to offer refunds for programs missed due to lateness.

Payments:

- Reservations for programs must be made at least two weeks in advance. Groups will receive a confirmation email at the time of booking, followed by an invoice.
- Full payment is due two weeks before program date.
- Please confirm final head count before program date.
- We accept credit cards over the phone, confirmed POs, and checks made out to "Treasurer, State of New Jersey."
- Trenton Public School District and Title 1 schools receive a 20% discount.

reservations.NJSM@sos.nj.gov

PLANETARIUM

FROM ADVENTURES ON MARS TO THE ANCIENT MAYA CIVILIZATION, WE HAVE SHOWS FOR ALL AGE GROUPS AND INTERESTS!



SHOWTIMES

TUESDAY - FRIDAY: 10 AM; 11 AM; 1 PM

- Shows begin promptly at the scheduled time. We are unable to issue refunds for late arrivals
- Our planetarium seats 140 people. Larger groups will be split into two or more shows.
- Minimum group size is 15 people.

Visit the LEARN tab on our website for a complete list of shows and trailers. Shows run 45 minutes and include a Sky Talk about the New Jersey night sky.

COST

\$5 per person, including teachers and chaperones

Payment due two weeks in advance

reservations.NJSM@sos.nj.gov

WORKSHOPS

EXAMINE REAL FOSSILS, ENGINEER A HOME,
OR LEARN ABOUT CULTURE THROUGH TIME!

Enhance your field trip with these hands-on experiences, designed around New Jersey's curriculum standards.

- We offer workshops for a wide range of grades, from pre-kindergarten through 8th grade.
- All workshops are 45 minutes long.
- All workshops can accommodate groups of 15 – 25.
- Groups with a larger size will be divided into multiple sessions. Groups of over 200 students cannot be accommodated on the same day but may be divided into multiple days if needed.



COST

\$5 per person

Payment due two weeks in advance

PRESCHOOL & EARLY ELEMENTARY

PRE-K TO 1ST GRADE

Our preschool and early elementary workshops are designed for preschoolers through first graders and incorporate elements of play and inquiry-based learning. We offer three preschool and early elementary workshops that focus on art, dinosaurs, and space.



PAINT ME A STORY

Art and storytelling go hand in hand as we discover how the art on display tells stories and engages our minds and bodies. Explore color theory and learn to make colors to express yourself.

DINO MOTION

Discover how dinosaurs and prehistoric reptiles moved through their environments as we combine science and imaginative play. Learn about trackways and what they can tell us about ancient animals.

PLANETS ON PARADE

Meet our favorite star and the planets in our solar system. Learn the order of the planets and how they orbit around the Sun, then design your own special planet!



ELEMENTARY

2ND TO 5TH GRADE

Our elementary workshops are for second through fifth graders. Using scaffolding and inquiry-based learning, these workshops build on topics throughout the Museum, and allow for a fully comprehensive visit for your group. We offer three elementary workshops that focus on seasons, archaeology, and paleontology.

NEW!

SHIFTING SEASONS 2ND - 5TH GRADES

What's the weather going to be like tomorrow? What about in six months? Join us to learn about the reason for the seasons and how we predict the weather.



NEW!

LENAPE CULTURE 2ND - 5TH GRADES

Explore Lenape cultural adaptation through the examination of ceramics from the Woodland Period to modern native artistic expressions.

JUNIOR PALEONTOLOGIST 2ND - 4TH GRADES

Explore the history of life on Earth through games and describe real fossils – some hundreds of millions of years old – by developing the same skills that paleontologists have.

LATE ELEMENTARY/ MIDDLE SCHOOL

4TH TO 8TH GRADE

Our late elementary and middle school workshops are for fourth through eighth graders, building on topics covered in previous workshops and throughout the Museum. We also introduce more complex concepts to develop critical thinking skills. We offer three middle school workshops that focus on paleontology, engineering, and climate change.

JUNIOR PALEONTOLOGIST 5TH - 8TH GRADES

Do you have what it takes to be a paleontologist? Delve into the history of life on Earth and examine real fossils – some hundreds of millions of years old – by honing your observation and description skills, just like real paleontologists.



HEARTH & HOME 4TH - 8TH GRADE

Looking to the Lenape for inspiration, student teams construct home models designed to combat the climate challenges of North American ecosystems.

NEW!

CHANGING COASTLINES 6TH - 8TH GRADE

Using scientific data, explore how New Jersey coasts have changed throughout time and how they're still changing today. Learn about the impacts of sea level rise and consider possible solutions for the future.

ASK THE EXPERTS

MEET THE MUSEUM'S SCIENTISTS -
AND BRING YOUR TOUGHEST QUESTIONS!



Our Ask the Expert talks are best for our larger groups, but groups of any size can reserve the program. They offer a more in-depth discussion of scientific topics found in the Museum, led by our own Museum curators! These live talks are 45 minutes long and we have options for elementary through high school students.

Virtual options are also available, ask about how the Zoom our Expert into YOUR classroom!!

COST

\$5 per person

Payment due two weeks in advance

NATURAL HISTORY

NEW!

FOSSIL EXPLORATION

K - 3RD GRADE

Learn about the fossils of New Jersey with Paleontologist Dr. Devra Hock-Reid and get a chance to interact with some real fossils.



FOSSIL HUNTERS OF NJ

3RD - 8TH GRADE

New Jersey abounds with fossils! Paleontologist Dr. Dana Ehret shares exciting fossil discoveries from throughout the state, what fossils tell us about ancient ecosystems, and the challenges paleontologists face in this adventurous field.

ARCHAEOLOGY

PEOPLE OF THE PAST

3RD - 8TH GRADE

How do artifacts help archaeologists understand the lives of people in prehistoric and historic New Jersey? Archaeologist Dr. Gregory Lattanzi leads this exploration of the unique artifacts found here, and what they tell us about the lifestyle of people who lived in the state through time.



NEW!

SPACE

OUR PLACE IN SPACE

3RD - 8TH GRADE

We're all passengers on spaceship Earth! Learn about our place in the universe from astronomer Dr. Jacob Hamer, who will share how astronomers have discovered so much about planets, stars, and galaxies, and more.



reservations.NJSM@sos.nj.gov

statemuseum.nj.gov

NEW!

CAREER TALKS

6 - 12 GRADE

PALEONTOLOGY

What does it mean to be a paleontologist? Talk with Paleontologist Dr. Devra Hock-Reid about her path in paleontology and career options within the earth sciences and science education.



ASTRONOMY/PHYSICS

What do astronomers do when the stars aren't out? Talk with astrophysicist Dr. Jacob Hamer about what a day in the life of an astronomer looks like, and the path to careers in astronomy.



statemuseum.nj.gov

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VIRTUAL FIELD TRIPS

BRING THE MUSEUM TO YOU WITH THREE INCREDIBLE KITS FOR DISTANCE LEARNING!

Each kit features a gallery tour*, hands-on craft project, and three classroom-ready worksheets.

*Pre-recorded, interactive tours use Google Classroom. Tour content may differ based on grade level.

COST

\$75 per kit of 25 projects
\$30/box shipping or
FREE in-person pick up.



FANTASTIC FOSSILS

Meet our favorite prehistoric New Jersey creatures and the science in recreating ancient worlds.



LENAPE ARTISTRY

Explore the cultural heritage and rich artistic traditions of New Jersey's Lenape people.



ART & INSPIRATION

Sculpture art project – a classroom kit with a variety of supplies for your students to choose which kind of sculpture they will create.



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EXHIBITS & TOURS

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE:
EXPLORE ON YOUR OWN WITH OUR NEW GALLERY GUIDES,
OR JOIN AN EXPERT DOCENT FOR AN INSIGHTFUL TOUR!



COST

Tours are FREE but must be reserved two weeks in advance

COMING SOON!

New Gallery Guides for every exhibit to encourage students to engage and explore, available at the Museum & on our website under the LEARN tab.

Alternatively, reserve a guided tour of a gallery of your choice, led by one of our expert docents, to prompt deeper connections with the topics presented. A minimum of 15 is required to reserve a tour, and groups larger than 30 will be split into multiple tours.

HOMESCHOOLS

Groups of 15 or more are invited to reserve any of our programs and presentations.
Join us for shows, in person or virtual workshops, and tours!

CODE OF CONDUCT

The New Jersey State Museum is dedicated to creating a safe, enjoyable, and memorable experience for all our visitors while protecting our exhibits to ensure everyone can appreciate them. Museum staff are committed to do everything we can so visitors feel safe, welcome, and respected, and we ask that all visitors contribute to that goal by following the Museum guidelines.

- Respect Museum staff, volunteers and other visitors. Behavior or language that is inappropriate, abusive, harassing, or threatening will not be tolerated.
- There is no running, climbing, sitting or standing on any railings, barricades, or exhibits. Please refrain from shouting, screaming, raised voices or any kind of disruptive behavior.
- No flash photography allowed in the Museum. Pictures without flash may be taken for personal, noncommercial use. Please try and refrain from taking photographs of visitors who are not with your group. Tripods and selfie sticks are not permitted.
- While the Museum includes both hands-on and hands-off areas, all hands-on sections are clearly marked. Assume a hands-off/eyes-only policy when no sign is present.
- Food and drink are not allowed in Museum galleries. Picnic tables outside are available for use.
- Backpacks are not allowed in the galleries. Students should leave their backpacks on the bus, or deposit them in bins provided at the Planetarium or at the Main Entrance. Chaperones may carry backpacks on the front of their person or hold them at their side.
- Chaperones are responsible for the appropriate behavior of all students in their group. We require 1 chaperone per 10 students, and for our youngest visitors (ages 6 and younger), we request 1 chaperone per 5 students. Chaperones are required to remain with students at all times.
- The Discovery Den on the second floor is reserved for families and young children (ages 0-8), please keep school groups out of that area.

By visiting the Museum, you are agreeing to comply with Museum guidelines and are responsible for any group you visit with. Refusal to follow this Code of Conduct and any rules - whether on print materials or as directed by NJ State Museum staff - can result in removal from the Museum.

Please Note: All programs are subject to change. We reserve the option to reschedule or cancel programs if we are unable to serve you.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HAVING YOU
AT THE NEW JERSEY STATE MUSEUM!



NEW JERSEY
STATE MUSEUM 

Inspiration. On display.