

Inspiration. On display.



WWW.STATEMUSEUM.NJ.GOV  
A Paleo Research Lab. Live Theater. It's all here!  
Working Scientists and Expert Educators.  
The state's largest Planetarium.  
Exhibits that tell the story of New Jersey and beyond.



# NEW JERSEY STATE MUSEUM | SCHOOL YEAR 2015-2016 FIELD TRIP PLANNING GUIDE



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PO Box 530, Trenton, NJ 08625-0530

With something for everyone, planning your visit is the key to a successful trip. Admission is FREE for school groups.

Scavenger Hunts available on our website, or at the Museum's welcome desk. Guided Tours are FREE and explore New Jersey History, American Art and Artists, Natural Science or the Lenape in New Jersey. To sign up for a tour, contact [Melissa.Kelly@sos.nj.gov](mailto:Melissa.Kelly@sos.nj.gov)

Add a Planetarium show, Thursday Theater, Ask Our Experts or Learning Lab and Studio Experience – each just \$3 per person. A lunch room is available for your students at 225 West State Street (next to the Museum). Reservations are required. Call the State House Tour Office at (609) 847-3150 to reserve a spot. Combine your Museum trip with a visit to the State House and the Old Barracks for a full day of learning!

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# LEARNING LABS & STUDIO EXPERIENCES

Advanced registration is required as workshop space is limited. Groups too large to fit into an experience at one time may rotate through workshops and other activities (guided tours, Ask Our Experts programs, self-guided scavenger hunts or exhibit exploration). Let our team help schedule your day! *For more information, contact Terri Barlow at (609) 292-1382. To make a reservation, call (609) 292-6347.*

## DIGGING FOR DINOSAURS!

**\$3 per student, Grades 3-7**

Seventy million years ago, New Jersey was a whole different world – home to dinosaurs like duck-billed Hadrosaurus and carnivorous Dryptosaurus. In this learning lab, we will explore fossils from the Museum's collections as a window into this ancient world. Through a mock dig, students become paleontologists as they excavate and reconstruct a model dinosaur skull, discovering and interpreting evidence of New Jersey's prehistoric past. Be sure to visit the Paleo Lab and talk to our scientists about their latest finds!

## EARTHQUAKES!

**\$3 per student, Grades 4-12**

This engineering-focused, earth science learning lab will have your students all shaken up! We'll dig into the science of earthquakes, modeling plate tectonics to learn why ground-rattling natural disasters occur. Students are challenged to engineer their own earthquake detection equipment, working in teams to design and test prototype seismometers. Pair this workshop with our "Ask the Experts" talk, From Volcanoes to Mastodons: NJ through Time, to find out more about earthquakes in New Jersey!

## POLYMERS

**\$3 per student, Grades K-6**

Experience New Jersey's history of innovation, and make a mess while you're at it! Travel back in time to the 1950s when New Jersey's Bell Labs made great discoveries in the polymer field – including the plastic coating for telephone and TV cables. With this fun introduction to chemistry, students will "invent" a polymer, and examine the unusual physical properties of their creation. A student favorite!

## MUSCLE MANIA

**\$3 per student, Grades 2-6**

Exercise your thinking muscles with our newest learning lab! In the human body, flexible muscles and stretchy tendons are responsible for bending our joints and moving our rigid skeleton. Through this exploration of levers, tension and simple machines, we'll engineer our own robotic arms and use them for simple games. Don't forget to visit the *Generation Fit exhibit* to learn more about eating healthy and exercising to build your muscles!

## LENAPE CRAFT TRADITIONS

**\$3 per person, Grades 2-5**

Native people adapted to their environment by using natural resources to produce necessary objects. In this Studio Experience, students compare and contrast a variety of baskets from different regions and examine authentic Delaware block stamped baskets to understand how the designs changed as they began to trade with European explorers and settlers. Students will weave individual baskets while learning the Native American tradition of storytelling.



# PLANETARIUM

Soar through the skies beneath the precision projection of more than 6,000 stars in New Jersey's largest planetarium. For a list of available shows, including trailers, visit our website [www.statemuseum.nj.gov](http://www.statemuseum.nj.gov) School shows are \$3 per person; all presentations include a live New Jersey sky talk. Advance registration is required. For reservations call (609) 292-6347.

## PRE-KINDERGARTEN SHOWS

### ONE WORLD, ONE SKY

Join Sesame Street's Big Bird, Elmo and their Chinese friend Hu Hu Zhu on a discovery of the sun, moon and stars! In this playful presentation, you'll spot the Big Dipper, take an imaginary journey to the moon with Elmo, and celebrate the idea that even though friends may live in different countries, they still share the same sky.

### THE LITTLE STAR THAT COULD

Little Star is an average yellow star, searching for planets of his own to protect and warm. As they follow his journey, young sky watchers learn that the sun is a star, what stars are made of, why stars are different colors, and how some stars are just the right size and temperature to support life. Pairs with the Early Learning program Stars & Shapes Forever.

## EARLY ELEMENTARY SHOWS (GRADES K-4)

### NEW: MAGIC TREE HOUSE SPACE MISSION

Based on the much-loved book series by Mary Pope Osborne. The adventure begins when brother-sister team Jack and Annie discover a mysterious note filled with questions about space. Their search to answer the questions and solve the mystery leads them on a fantastic trip into deepest space...with a little help from their Magic Tree House!

### NEW: RUSTY ROCKET'S LAST BLAST

All rookies report to class! It's Rusty Rocket's mission to take a new class of rocket rookies on an introductory tour of the solar system. Along the way, Rusty highlights the wide variety of environments in the solar system, the great distances between the planets, and the spacecraft used for exploration.

## EARTH, MOON & SUN

Explore the science and the myth behind the interactions of the Earth, Moon and Sun, with the help of an amusing character Coyote (adapted from Native American oral traditions), who has many misconceptions about our home planet and it's most familiar neighbors.

## UPPER LEVEL SHOWS (GRADES 4 AND UP)

### ASTEROID: MISSION EXTREME

It's an epic journey that reveals how asteroids are both a danger and an opportunity. The danger lies in the possibility of a cataclysmic collision with Earth; the opportunity is the fascinating idea that asteroids could be stepping stones to other worlds. The challenges are enormous, but this extreme mission could ultimately lead us to protect our planet and inhabit others!



# ASK THE EXPERTS

Here at The New Jersey State Museum, we have MILLIONS of art, artifacts and specimens in our collections, and a team of experts who study the collections and do field research. During your visit, your students can connect with our scientists and artifacts through these interactive assemblies, designed for larger groups. Chose from the following topics:

## ARCHAEOLOGY

### CERAMIC SCENE INVESTIGATION: PATTERNS IN THE POTTERY

\$3 per person, Grades 4-12

The lines etched into Native American pot shards may look simple, but for archaeologists, they hold layers of significance that bring past to life! With Dr. Gregory Lattanzi as your guide, your class will discover the meanings in the geometric patterns and designs, and learn what these scratches can reveal about New Jersey's native artists.

### THE POWER OF PLACE: EXPLORING HUMAN-ENVIRONMENT RELATIONSHIPS

\$3 per person, Grades 4-12

Do humans shape the landscape, or does the landscape shape human civilizations? Explore this question through the lens of New Jersey's changing environments and peoples. As students compare unique artifacts, geography and environments of different archaeological sites with archaeologist Dr. Gregory Lattanzi, they will build an understanding of how prehistoric humans interacted with their world.

## NATURAL HISTORY

### IN THE FIELD WITH THE MUSEUM'S BIGHORN BASIN DINOSAUR PROJECT

\$3 per student, Grades 1-12

Ever dreamed of digging up your backyard and finding a dinosaur? At the State Museum, that's paleontologist Jason Schein's job! Well, maybe not his backyard, but he DOES lead expeditions to find fossils in the wilds of Wyoming and Montana. Come hear all about the Bighorn Basin Dinosaur Project's exciting discoveries, what fossils tell us about the paleoecology of the region, and all of the challenges that come with this adventurous career.

### FROM VOLCANOES TO MASTODONS: NJ THROUGH TIME

\$3 per student, Grades 4-12

For such a small state, New Jersey has a remarkably long history with rocks dating back one BILLION years! Come time travel with paleontologist Jason Schein as we explore the geological forces that have shaped New Jersey – from earthquakes to volcanoes and glaciers – and meet the critters that once thrived here. Along the way, you'll encounter the earliest vertebrates, New Jersey's state dinosaur, and giant ice age mastodons.

### ASK THE EXPERTS: VIDEO LEARNING LIBRARY

LAUNCHING THIS YEAR: Bring our expert paleontologist right into your classroom! A series of 10 short, engaging videos transport your students from the Museum's Paleo Lab to a Montana dig site with the Bighorn Basin Dinosaur Project. These videos tackle the most frequently asked questions in Paleontology, and are accompanied by teacher lesson plans exploring both Earth and Life Sciences.

Videos and NGSS-aligned lessons available through the "Resources for Teachers" section of our website [www.statemuseum.nj.gov](http://www.statemuseum.nj.gov)



# NEW EXHIBITS



### GENERATION FIT: STEPS TO A HEALTHIER LIFESTYLE

Through August 2016

Explore your health in this colorful, interactive and engaging exhibit! *Generation Fit* addresses nutrition and exercise with hands-on components, animation, and exercise challenges. Learn what a calorie is, and how to decode food labels; build a "rainbow on your plate;" and get your heart racing with exercise games in the training area. This exhibit helps visitors appreciate how small changes in nutrition and activity can lead to a healthier lifestyle. Be sure to add our learning lab, "Muscle Mania" to pump up your visit! *Generation Fit: Steps to a Healthier Lifestyle* was originally organized by the Newark Museum.

### SILVER, SHELL AND GLASS: A HISTORY OF NATIVE AMERICAN BEADWORK

January 2016 to September 2016

This exhibition tells the stories woven into Native American beadwork, showcasing the artistry and cultural symbolism of diverse colors, patterns and designs. Examine beaded artifacts from New Jersey to the Great Plains, the American Southwest and the California coast. Bead materials vary across regions and through time, and include natural resources such as wood, bone, shell, as well as man-made beads of glass, ceramic and metal. Each piece speaks to the economic or symbolic functions of beads within Native American culture, representing unique styles, as well as evidence of contact between different cultures through trade.

### RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS

Visit our website to learn more about: Downloadable scavenger hunts to bring on your trip; Classroom activities that complement Planetarium shows; tours and programs and Teacher Professional Development workshops offered throughout the year.

If you don't see what you are looking for or have questions or suggestions, please contact Beth Cooper, Curator of Education at 609-984-2586 or [beth.cooper@sos.nj.gov](mailto:beth.cooper@sos.nj.gov)



# THURSDAY THEATER

Choose performances based in science, literature or social studies. These shows are a steal at only \$3.00 per person! Trenton Public Schools may attend performances FREE of charge. Shows begin at 11:00 am. Advance registration is required for groups of 10 or more. For reservations call (609) 292-6347.

## JANUARY 2016

JANUARY 29

BECOME YOUR DREAMS (HISTORY OF HIP HOP)

*Illstyle & Peace Productions*

With incredible energy and personalities to match, the dancers of Illstyle & Peace demonstrate and teach the history of hip hop dance!

## FEBRUARY 2016

FEBRUARY 11

HARRIET TUBMAN

*Gwendolyn Briley-Strand*

This dynamic one-woman performance takes students on one of the 19 journeys Harriet Tubman took through the Underground Railroad. **Appropriate for grades 3-12.**

FEBRUARY 18

I, NAT LOVE

*Rochel Garner Coleman*

Playing the Black Cowboy, Nat Love (a.k.a Deadwood Dick), Rochel treats the audience to the life and times of this ex-slave who joined thousands of others like him to explore and settle the West.

FEBRUARY 25

SUPER SCIENTIFIC CIRCUS

*The Magic of Chemistry*

Magic tricks, circus skills, and audience participation help explain atoms, molecules, the elements, compounds, solutions, magnetism, and static electricity.

**Appropriate for grades K-8.**

## MARCH 2016

MARCH 10

THE PIRATE, THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA

*The Crabgrass Theater*

A swashbuckling adventure about friendship and cooperation! **Appropriate for grades pre-K - 4.**

MARCH 17

YAH-OH-WAY

*Thunderbird American Indian Dancers*

Accompanied by song and drumming, the dancers don beautiful costumes and explain the meaning behind each movement. A perfect complement to the *Silver, Shell and Glass: A History of Native American Beadwork* exhibit and the Lenape Craft Traditions studio experience.

## APRIL 2016

APRIL 7

MARVELS OF MOTION

*Mad Science*

Come one, come all... to the Mad Science Physics Olympics! Children compete in wacky events, while the mad scientists prepare to unveil their top-secret motion machine.

APRIL 21

AUSTIN THE UNSTOPPABLE

*George Street Playhouse*

A touching story that confronts the challenges of obesity. This musical comedy teaches how positive change can occur through the power of hard work, support and love. A perfect complement to the Generation Fit exhibit and Muscle Mania learning lab.

APRIL 28

FOLKTALE FUN

*TAHIRA*

Delivered in her signature high-energy style, TAHIRA captivates young audiences while imparting universal values such as appreciating differences and being kind with your words. **Appropriate for grades pre-K-4.**

## MAY 2016

MAY 19

UP, UP AND AWAY

*Mad Science*

Explore the three states of matter, air pressure (using the Madgeburg Sphere), a Hot Air Balloon, the Mad Science Hovercraft, a giant size vortex generator and finally the Big Sneeze demonstration. **Appropriate for grades K-6.**

MAY 26

THE COURAGE TO DREAM: AMAZING

LIFE OF BEN FRANKLIN

*Flying Ship Productions*

Ben Franklin was America's first true Renaissance man: printer, writer, inventor, scientist, diplomat and statesman. Despite his humble beginnings and only two years of formal schooling, Ben Franklin changed the world. Franklin's life and times are brought to life with colorful scenery and authentic costumes. **Appropriate for grades K-8**

## WHAT IS A PORTRAIT?

**\$3 per person, Grades 2-8**

Portraits come in all mediums – screen prints, photographs, oils and watercolors to name a few. Drawing on the Fine Art collection, this Studio Experience teaches students to identify a variety of styles and understand what makes them all portraits. Portraits not only show a person's likeness, they often display important clues about their life. Students will use what they learned to make their own portraits using pencil, charcoal or paint.

## EARLY LEARNING

Created especially for preschool and pre-K, these programs are designed to teach science, history and art through creative play, crafts, stories and song. *Reservations required. Space is limited to 25 students at a time. Contact Kerry Scott at [Kerry.scott@sos.nj.gov](mailto:Kerry.scott@sos.nj.gov) or (609) 984-8487.*

## BACKYARD TWEETS: HOW NEW JERSEY WILDLIFE COMMUNICATES

**\$2 per student.** Young scientists launch their studies by investigating the world around them—beginning in their own backyard! Follow Smiley the Coyote through the Museum as he searches for his family. Meet specimens from the Museum's natural history collection along the way to learn how New Jersey's wildlife communicates through sound, body language, scent, and color. This story based, interactive program features object-based learning, music, dance and imaginative play.

## PAINT ME A STORY

**\$2 per student.** Art and storytelling go hand in hand, as visual literacy promotes both print literacy and language development. Young children learn to “read” objects and images long before they learn to read words. This open-ended workshop engages young children with art while they explore color, themes, and feelings in different settings, from a vibrant music lesson to a quiet morning in the woods. In the second half of the program, children will paint their own stories, creating unique artwork. Students' pieces are bound and mailed back to the school as a keepsake.

## STARS AND SHAPES FOREVER

**\$3 per student (Includes Planetarium show)**

First stop is the animated Planetarium show, *The Little Star That Could*, followed by an interactive workshop. Children enjoy modelling our solar system, orbiting the sun with colorful inflatable planets, and compare the sizes of objects in the Universe. Each child gets to decorate their own star to take home. It's a great way to introduce young children to the Planetarium and our galaxy!

## PALEO LAB

Take a peek at our latest fossil discoveries! Our scientists are hard at work, preparing new specimens from sites in New Jersey, Wyoming and Montana. We invite you to come and ask all your paleontology questions. Located on Level 2. Self-guided and open to the public every day.

