Educational Field Trip Opportunities

Mississippi Children’s Museum field trips promote hands-on, inquiry-based learning that helps to foster valuable critical thinking skills. New ideas will ignite as students become interested in learning and make hands-on connections to classroom concepts. We offer an exciting and engaging environment where children can create, explore, and grow. We do the work to make your field trip an educational experience, so you can have all of the fun!

Field trips and group visits are available for groups of 15 or more children. This opportunity is great for schools, churches, community organizations, tours, and family reunions. Group visits to the museum are two hours in length at a cost of $5.00 per student. Reservations can be made through our website, www.mschildrensmuseum.org. Please keep in mind that MCM does not offer group visits on weekends.

For group visits, we require a 1:5 ratio of adults to children, whereas one adult for every five children will receive free admission. Additional adults beyond the 1:5 adult to student ratio are eligible for the $5.00 group admission rate if their payment is made with the group’s payment.

To help meet the 1:5 required ratio, we suggest:
1. Bring parents as chaperones.
2. Offer volunteer hours as field trip chaperones to community or school organizations.

The Mississippi Children’s Museum is open and accessible to all visitors! If someone in your group has special needs, please contact the museum in advance of your visit with any special requests to help facilitate your visit.

### Field Trip Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE OF VISIT</th>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>TIME OF YEAR</th>
<th># OF STUDENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Museum Exploration</td>
<td>All Ages</td>
<td>All Year</td>
<td>Up to 250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gallery Scavenger Hunt</td>
<td>2nd-6th grade</td>
<td>August-May</td>
<td>Up to 250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instructional Classroom Program</td>
<td>Varies</td>
<td>Varies by program</td>
<td>Up to 75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Instructional Classroom Programs

MCM was built with a mission to improve the health and literacy of Mississippi’s children, because the two go hand-in-hand. The hands-on programs we offer at MCM involve children in making good choices in a fun and interactive way, which is the best way for them to remember what they’ve learned. Our interactive, multi-disciplinary programs make concepts introduced and developed in the classroom come alive in our thematic galleries. Our programs are based in three focus areas, health, literacy and STEAM. All programs are an additional $3.00 per student, unless otherwise noted.

### Outreach Opportunities

If you can’t visit MCM, or you’ve visited and want to share the experience with more students, our hands-on educational experiences at your school, church, camp or special event are the perfect solution. Most MCM programs are also offered for outreach visits, in addition to our traveling exhibits. Contact our education coordinator at 601-709-8962 for available programs and pricing.
Meeting your Objectives

Connecting to state and national standards in literacy, health, and STEAM is MCM’s specialty. The Education and Programs Department at MCM strives to make each experience fun while also providing children with substantive material that enhances the standards that are being tested in Mississippi’s assessment program.

Each field trip, outreach program, and professional development opportunity is immersed in educational concepts. Allowing children to make connections to these standards in an informal learning environment reinforces what they are learning in the classroom in a hands-on, tactile way that no child will forget.

Professional Development

At MCM, we believe that learning is serious fun. Our professional development workshops are innovative and interactive. They provide early childhood and elementary educators with inspirational, engaging activities to take back to their classrooms. Educators explore the museum during professional development just as their students would on a field trip to make connections between classroom lessons and real-world concepts.

Workshop Information

• Each workshop is 5 hours long, 9am-3pm (including a one hour lunch break).

• Each workshop counts as .5 continuing education units (CEUs) or 5 hours for childcare workers.

• We offer our professional development workshops on site at the museum at various times throughout the year. Please check our website, www.mschildrensmuseum.org or email sheri@mcm.ms for specific dates and workshop descriptions.

• All professional development workshops are available for off-site presentations. Please contact the Assistant Director of Enrichment for more information at sheri@mcm.ms.
FIELD TRIP FAQ’S

HOW DO I BOOK A FIELD TRIP OR GROUP VISIT?
To book your field trip, visit our website at www.mschildrensmuseum.org. A field trip reservation request can be found under the ‘visit’ and ‘discover’ sections. A field trip confirmation, along with a cost estimate and other pertinent information, will be sent to you via e-mail as soon as your request has been processed.

HOW MUCH DOES A FIELD TRIP COST?
Our group admission rate is $5.00 per person for a group with 15 or more children. Both children and adults are eligible for the group rate by paying with the group. One chaperone for every five children will receive free admission. Group lunches, educational programs, gift bags and other items are offered for an additional cost if desired.

WHEN SHOULD I BOOK?
To help ensure the date and time you prefer is available, we recommend booking your visit at least two weeks in advance.

CAN I BOOK A GROUP VISIT FOR A SATURDAY OR SUNDAY?
Unfortunately, we do not offer our group rate on weekends. We would still love for your group to visit us! If your group plans a weekend visit, please contact us prior to your visit to help us best prepare. Upon arrival, check in at the front desk with the number of $10 general admissions you would like to purchase. One advantage to a full price weekend visit - you can stay and play all day!

WHAT HAPPENS IF I COME TO THE MUSEUM FOR A FIELD TRIP WITHOUT BOOKING IN ADVANCE?
We are always happy to have visitors to the museum; however, we cannot guarantee the group rate without advanced reservations.

HOW MANY CHAPERONES SHOULD I BRING?
We require one adult for every five children (1:5) in your group because of the interactive nature of the museum. These required chaperones will receive free admission to the museum during your field trip. We welcome additional chaperones who may also receive the $5.00 group rate if their payment is made with the group's.

CAN THE CHILDREN AND CHAPERONES FROM MY GROUP CHECK IN USING THEIR MCM MEMBERSHIPS?
Because of the special nature of field trip visits, students with your group must pay the $5.00 group rate admission. Chaperones, additional adults, and siblings of your students may check-in under their memberships at the front desk before joining the group for orientation.

DO YOU OFFER GUIDED FIELD TRIPS?
At MCM, guests freely visit our hands-on, inquiry-based galleries. With our required ratio of one adult for every five students, your students will visit our galleries during your two hour visit at their own pace, as long as they are with their assigned chaperone.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MUSEUM EXPLORATION, SCAVENGER HUNTS, AND INSTRUCTIONAL CLASSROOM PROGRAM VISITS?
We offer three types of field trip visits at the Mississippi Children’s Museum:
- **Museum Exploration** - two hour visit includes exploration of all five galleries
- **Scavenger Hunt** - two hour visit includes exploration of all five galleries and ONE hunt
- **Instructional Classroom Program** - two hour visit includes exploration of all five galleries and selected program

IS THERE A PLACE FOR MY STUDENTS TO EAT LUNCH AT THE MUSEUM?
MCM has limited space for students who purchase lunches from the Red Rocket Café. If you’re interested in reserving a space to eat lunch, please check this when you pre-order your lunches. These areas are reserved in the order they are requested. Groups may also have lunch at the LeFleur’s Bluff State Park located next door to MCM. No outside food or drink is allowed inside the museum.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN A BOX LUNCH?
Each student lunch includes a sandwich, a bag of potato chips, a chocolate chip cookie, and a small bottle of water. Each box lunch costs $5.00 (plus tax) and must be ordered at least one week in advance. Chaperones may order from an extended group visit menu prior to visit.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN A GIFT BAG FROM THE TRADING POST?
Each gift bag includes a pencil, sticker, mini modeling clay and a buy one, get one free admission pass for a future visit to the museum. Each souvenir gift bag costs $3.50 (plus tax) and must be ordered one week in advance.

CAN MY STUDENTS VISIT LOUIS LEFLEUR’S TRADING POST (GIFT SHOP)?
Yes! We welcome students to the Trading Post at any time during their field trip visits! Chaperones must accompany students in the Trading Post.

WHAT TYPES OF PAYMENT DO YOU ACCEPT?
Checks, cash, and all major credit cards are accepted as payment for field trips. We do not accept purchase orders; however, our finance department is happy to issue an invoice in advance to help with the payment process for your school. Payments for field trips must be made in one transaction.

DO YOU NEED A TAX EXEMPTION LETTER FOR MY SCHOOL/ORGANIZATION?
We do not charge tax on our admissions because we offer field trips as an educational service to your students. If you order lunches or gift bags through the museum, we must have your Mississippi Sales Tax Exemption letter on file for you to receive these goods without tax. Out-of-state sales tax exemption letters do not apply.