Dear Educator,

The Mississippi Children’s Museum (MCM) provides fun, innovative learning experiences for early childhood and elementary students through inspirational, curriculum-aligned field trips, educator professional development and outreach programming! These experiences enrich learning for students and give them the opportunity to make connections between classroom lessons and real world concepts.

The museum currently offers field trip options focused on literacy, health, and STEAM. Programs are designed to meet the needs of children from ages 3-12. There is something for everyone!

If your students are unable to visit us, we can bring MCM to you! Examples of our outreach include our brand new traveling exhibits, STEAM Engine or Story to Stage. We also offer outreach with our Imagination Playground, which encourages children to discover and create by manipulating oversized foam blocks.

Finally, we offer a variety of professional development workshops to teachers both in-house at MCM or off-site at schools. Our professional development workshops, which offer CEUs or contact hours for childcare workers, are innovative and interactive. They provide early childhood and elementary educators with inspirational, and engaging activities to take back to the classroom.

We invite you and your students to visit the Mississippi Children’s Museum! Your visit will help support MCM’s mission to provide unparalleled experiences that ignite a thirst for discovery, knowledge, and learning in all children.

Best Regards,

[Signature]

Susan Garrard
Mississippi Children’s Museum President/CEO
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 and 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 (with an 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 sherimcm.ms for specific dates and workshop descriptions.

• All professional development workshops are available for group pricing and off-site presentations. Please contact the Assistant Director of Enrichment for more information.
FIELD TRIP OPPORTUNITIES

MCM field trips promote inquiry-based learning and foster critical thinking skills while supporting best practices. Our interactive, multi-disciplinary programs will make the concepts introduced and developed in the classroom come alive in our thematic learning environments. 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 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. Please note: we do not offer group visits on weekends. Group visits to the museum are 2 hours in length at a cost of $5.00 per student.

For each group, we require a 1:5 ratio of adults to children. 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 rate if their payment is made with the group’s. 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.

FIELD TRIP OPTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE OF VISIT</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>TIME OF YEAR</th>
<th># OF STUDENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Museum Exploration</td>
<td>All Ages</td>
<td>All Year</td>
<td>Up to 250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Gallery Scavenger Hunt</td>
<td>2nd-6th grade</td>
<td>August-May School-Year Only</td>
<td>Up to 250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Instructional Classroom</td>
<td>Varies</td>
<td>August-May School-Year Only</td>
<td>Up to 75</td>
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</tbody>
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(see descriptions on the following pages)

PLANNING

To provide the most optimal and enriching experience to students, please complete the field trip reservation request found on our website, www.mschildrensmuseum.org.

MCM is open and accessible to all. 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.
INSTRUCTIONAL CLASSROOM PROGRAMS
VISIT MSCHILDRENSMUSEUM.ORG FOR DETAILS

JOURNEY OF DIGESTION
HEALTH: Appropriate for grades Kindergarten-3rd
Offered in September & October

Children will take a journey into the digestive system through a hands-on demonstration and activity. Children can also visit the larger-than-life Gastro-climber exhibit in our Healthy Fun gallery to become a food particle, travel through the digestive system and learn what happens to food after you swallow it.

GET HEART SMART
HEALTH: Appropriate for grades 1st-5th
Offered in January & February

This program is designed to educate children about key facets of heart health, through an innovative and interactive program model. Your students will experience the circulatory system like never before - as a blood cell! As the ‘blood cells’ travel through the larger-than-life heart and lungs floor map, your students will learn about the anatomy of the heart, its primary functions, and the role the circulatory system plays in overall health. This program will also educate students about life choices that help or harm their heart. (Also capable of traveling to your organization. See website for details.)
BROWN BEAR, BROWN BEAR, WHAT DO YOU SEE?
LITERACY: Appropriate for grades Pre K-1st

Students will take part in an interactive reading of the beloved Eric Carle story, Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? During the reading, students will explore colors, letters and sounds.

DR. SEUSS
LITERACY: Appropriate for grades Pre K-1st
Offered in March & April

Join us for a “Seusstastic” experience of rhyming and syllabication practice with a beloved Dr. Seuss story! Students will discuss the history of Dr. Seuss and identify rhyming words during an interactive reading. We will have a blast making word families with the hilarious terms from one of Dr. Seuss’ popular children’s books.

JOURNEY TO THE NORTH POLE
SEASONAL: Offered November & December
Appropriate for grades Pre K-2nd

Journey to the North Pole offers students a ticket to an engaging holiday experience. After an interactive reading of a popular holiday book, students will explore our train built for students to create their own journey, plus our holiday train table with toy trains. Students can pen their letter to Santa while exploring MCM’s other exhibits and take a ride down the Snowflake Slide (must meet height requirement). We encourage field trips to dress in their pajamas for this field trip day!
WHAT DO WHEELS DO ALL DAY?
STEAM: Appropriate for grades Pre K-1st

How often do you notice shapes in our everyday world? In this program your students will learn to look for circles and squares everywhere they go. After reading What Do Wheels Do All Day?, museum staff will facilitate an activity about shapes and how momentum and physics are affected by the shape of an object.

MATH CURSE
STEAM: Appropriate for grades 2nd-5th

This field trip turns the museum into a giant series of word problems. After reading the book Math Curse, students will work together throughout the museum to solve word problems. They will use math skills and concepts like geometry, fractions and pre-algebra to relate mathematic operations to daily life.

Bricks 4 Kidz®
STEAM: Appropriate for grades Kindergarten-6th

Give your students an unforgettable STEM experience with the 45 minute Bricks 4 Kidz® program! Students will use LEGO® bricks to deliver hands-on lessons related to cross-disciplinary curriculum objectives. The Bricks 4 Kidz® approach to learning is imaginative, multi-sensory, and fun, creating a dynamic learning experience for your students. A variety of themes are available: Forces of Nature, Laws of Motion, Gears, Energy, Simple Machines, Transportation, Architecture, and Engineering. Please note: there is an additional fee for this field trip.
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, with a cost estimate and other pertinent information will be sent via e-mail as soon as your request has been processed.

HOW MUCH DOES A FIELD TRIP COST?
Our group 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.

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 how many $10 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.

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: 2 hour visit includes exploration of all 5 galleries.
• Scavenger Hunt: 2 hour visit includes exploration of all 5 galleries and ONE hunt.
• Instructional Classroom Program: 2 hour visit includes exploration of all 5 galleries and selected program.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ROTATING AND FREE PLAYING DURING MY VISIT?
Groups who visit MCM will explore the museum in one of two ways:
• Free Play: Smaller groups will explore the museum’s exhibit galleries at their own pace. Chaperones must remain with students during the entire visit.
• Rotations: Rotating field trips are ideal for larger groups, and consist of rotations through our permanent galleries. Chaperones must remain with students during the entire visit.
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, please note that when you pre-order your lunches. These areas are reserved in the order they are requested. No outside food or drink is allowed inside the Mississippi Children’s 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. The choices for sandwiches include turkey, ham, a peanut butter and grape jelly Uncrustable, or a hot dog. 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. Souvenir gift bags cost $3.50 (plus tax) each 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 during their field trip visits! Chaperones may bring students to the Trading Post during their World at Work rotation (for rotating groups) or at any point during a free play visit. 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.

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

Each field trip, outreach program, and professional development opportunity is immersed in educational concepts. MCM’s programs are aligned with the Mississippi standards as well as the scaffolding for each grade level in English Language Arts and Mathematics (when applicable). 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.
The Get Heart Smart program is designed to educate children about three key facets of heart health, through an innovative and interactive program model. Your students will experience the circulatory system like never before—as a blood cell! As the “blood cells” travel through the larger-than-life heart and lungs floor map, your students will learn about the anatomy of the heart, its primary functions and the role the circulatory system plays in overall health. This program will also educate students about life choices that help or harm their hearts, like nutritious food, sleep habits and exercise. Lastly, students will participate in a discussion about keeping their heart healthy by being good friends, students, and citizens.

Our Fit for Fun outreach program will introduce participating children to health and nutrition concepts through a wide range of fitness activities! Children who participate will learn about making healthy eating choices and engage in high yield physical activities that are sure to provide them with tons of fun and excellent ideas that they can take back into their homes and communities.

Build with the big, blue blocks of Imagination Playground! Imagination Playground is a mobile block-based play system that transforms children’s mind, bodies, and spirits through active, creative play! This exhibit allows children to discover and create through unstructured free play. Children are encouraged to continuously manipulate the blocks to develop a variety of environments and play spaces. Make the most of your block play with suggestions from the Play Associate’s Guide from Imagination Playground. Request to rent Imagination Playground today!
STORY TO STAGE

Through our Story to Stage traveling exhibit, children are able to use their imaginations to create stories and retell them on stage in the form of a show. Children will also be encouraged to create their own stories and shows using story prompts, costumes, and puppets.

Teachers, librarians, and support staff will receive training on how to effectively engage students with this wonderful exhibit that aids in developing literacy skills such as reading, writing, and oral communication. Story to Stage is an excellent resource that can be used in schools to reinforce skills being taught in the classrooms. The interactive and hands on components allow students to connect what they are learning to their real world experiences.

STEAM ENGINE

The STEAM Engine experience is MCM’s newest exhibit available for rent! Depending on your group size and facility space, we can customize a package perfect for your needs. With three uniquely designed train cars as well as four varying height train tables, your group can achieve multiple educational objectives in one experience including STEAM interactives, healthy choices, and a well-stocked library car.

ROLL MATCH READ

Roll, Match, Read is a small, modular, pop-up exhibit which draws on the emerging trend that blends programs and activities with permanent exhibits. They are designed to be easily assembled and disassembled in your building, classroom, library, or museum and in the community at special events. MCM’s popup exhibits are designed to be interactive, fun, and educational. Roll, Match, Read is a safe space for children to explore motor development and early literacy skills.
A signature project of the Junior League of Jackson
This project is partially funded through a grant by Visit Jackson.