



Lutz Children's Museum's  
2009-2010

# Teacher Newsletter

**The Lutz Children's Museum** was founded by a teacher, Hazel Lutz, to provide educational resources to families and schools. We remain committed to her vision of providing hands-on learning opportunities that prepare students for academic success.

We consider teachers our customers, our partners, and our friends. Many of our programs come from your suggestions. Grant funding is sometimes available to defray the cost of programs. Please review our current offerings, and contact us if you have any questions or requests. We would appreciate the opportunity to collaborate on special projects that enhance your students' educational experience.

## Booking A Program

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Educational programs can be scheduled by contacting Museum Staff at **860-643-0949 x10** or **frontdesk@lutzmuseum.org**. We also offer after school programs and special events at the museum and at the Oak Grove Nature Center.

## Educational Standards

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All museum programs meet the performance standards in **Connecticut's K-12 Curriculum Framework**. Specific content standards are indicated within each program description. Please ask if you would like more information about how individual programs meet these indicators.

## Programming

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**Resource Lessons** are programs delivered in your classroom by an experienced Museum Educator.

**Group Visits** are field trips to the museum with an educational program included.

**Nature Center** visits are an opportunity to explore nature on a local nature preserve.

**Educational Kits** are boxes of museum artifacts and ideas that teachers can use in the classroom.

## Free Teacher Memberships

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All teachers are invited to apply for a free LCM membership which will allow you unlimited admissions and member discounts. Contact Stephanie at **sradowitz@lutzmuseum.org** to sign up!

## Teacher – Volunteers

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Hazel Lutz founded the museum with the help of other teachers. Some things never change. We always need volunteers to deliver programs, develop curriculum, and maintain artifacts. Please contact Joanna at **jsnyder@lutzmuseum.org** or **860-643-0949 x13** for more information about these and other volunteer opportunities.

## Lutz Up

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Our bimonthly newsletter is distributed through many different school districts with the permission of your superintendent. Each newsletter is packed with fun and educational classes, concerts, trips, and special events. We count on teachers to unroll the bundle as soon as you receive it and distribute the newsletters into students' backpacks. **Thanks for your help!**

## Having A Special Event For Large Groups?

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We now have programs that can accommodate larger crowds in an auditorium setting. We can set up a booth to accommodate a steady flow of individuals. These programs are perfect for fairs. Call **860-643-0949** for details.

# Resource Lesson Topics

**Museum Educators** will join your classroom for forty-five minutes of fun and educational activities. The fee for a Resource Lesson is \$100 per program with a charge of 60 cents per mile. Night and weekend programs may be available with an additional \$25 fee. The following program topics are currently available. Customized programs may also be available.

## Science Programs

### Animal Protection

In this class we will discover several ways an animal can protect itself from predators. With LCM artifacts and real life examples, we'll learn about animals with obvious protection to those animals with hidden talents.

Recommended Grades: K-1

Science Content Standards: K.1, K.2, 1.2

### Animals of the World

In this class we will learn about animals and their native continents. While we meet these amazing creatures, we'll discover what adaptations they have to live where they do.

Recommended Grades: K-3

Science Content Standards: K.1, K.2, 1.2, 3.2

### What Will It Become?

Students will be presented with a variety of different seeds, eggs, and larva and will try to guess what the mature organism will look like. Then they will get to meet a live bird, amphibian, and insect.

Recommended Grades: K-2

Science Content Standards: K.3, 1.3, 2.2

### Animal X-Ray

Vertebrates may have different body coverings, but underneath the fur, feathers, or scales, they have many similar structures. Students will get to compare and contrast x-rays and skeletons of different vertebrates, and meet the animals they belong to.

Recommended Grades: K-2

Science Content Standards: K.2, 1.2

## Humanities Programs

### Graphic Novels

Comics and graphic novels are an exciting fusion of art and storytelling. In this program, we will look at graphic novels from a critical perspective. We will identify literary devices and visual elements used by contemporary comic artists. Then, we will use this information to brainstorm our own stories and characters, and begin to storyboard our own graphic novels.

Recommended Grades: 1-4

Visual Art Content Standards: 1.b, 1.c, 2.b, 2.c, 3.b

### To Move or Not to Move

Mrs. Chapin, a costumed interpreter from the 1800's, must decide with the help of the students whether to move with her family from a rural town to the big city.

Recommended Grades: 2-4

Social Studies Content Standards: 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 11

### School Days of Long Ago

Students will compare and contrast modern and historic methods of discipline and teaching as well as subjects of study. We'll even try out a quick lesson or two! This lesson is taught by a costumed interpreter.

Recommended Grades: 1-3

Social Studies Content Standards: 1, 2, 3, 4, 11

# Group Visit Topics

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**Visiting the museum** is a fun and educational field trip! You will find three galleries which house our exhibits as well as a *Shadow Room* and a museum store. Come explore our *Under the Surface* exhibit on Long Island Sound, experience 19<sup>th</sup> Century Manchester *Farm Life*, or visit with some of the wild and domestic animals housed in our *Animal Room*. Book your Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday group visit in advance and chaperones will be admitted free with groups of ten or more children. One of our Museum Educators will present an informative forty-five minute educational program of your choice for a fee of \$8 per child, which includes museum admission for the day. A self-guided visit without a program is also available for \$5 per child.

## Science Programs

### Water, Water Everywhere

In this class students will gain a better understanding of the long ‘road’ a water droplet has to take before it might end up in your drinking glass and find out what might happen to it along the way. We’ll also get to visit some animals that are very ‘water friendly’.

Recommended Grades: 1 & up

Science Content Standards: 1.2, 2.1, 3.1, 4.3

### Animal Diets

In this program, students will see an example of an herbivore, an omnivore, and a carnivore, and learn about special adaptations that these animals have to help them find food. Then students can help feed some animals right here at the museum!

Recommended Grades: K-3

Science Content Standards: K.2, 1.2, 2.4, 3.2

## Humanities Programs

### Drawing Animals

From Rousseau’s fierce jungles to Audubon’s scientific sketches, many artists over the centuries have been inspired by animals. Now is your chance to join their ranks and create some animal artwork of your own! Students will have the opportunity to observe and sketch a variety of live animals at the museum. Then, guided by their fieldwork sketches, they will return to the “studio” to create colorful masterworks.

Recommended Grades: 1-3

Visual Art Content Standards: 1.b, 1.d, 3.b

### Landscapes, Seascapes, and Dreamscapes

If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go? Many artists, such as Constable, have used real places as inspiration for their artwork. Other artists, like Dali, have used their imaginations to invent places that don’t even exist. In this program we will look at how different artists have interpreted the idea of “place” in their artwork. We will use our experiences (and our creativity) to make some landscapes, seascapes, and dreamscapes of our own.

Recommended Grades: K-2

Visual Art Content Standards: 1.c, 3.b, 4.c

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## *Programs Back By Popular Demand*

We consider the yearly implementation of new and exciting programming to be essential to ensuring the vitality of educational experiences here at the LCM. However, we also know it is just too hard to see some old favorites go! These popular topics are still available and can be brought to your classroom by calling **860-643-0949**.

**Look at Those Legs • Crazy Camouflage • Endangered Species  
Fur, Feathers, and Scales • Animals of the Night**

# Visit Our Nature Center!!! ---

These one hour programs, recommended for all ages, are held at a nearby nature preserve. After the program is over, groups are welcome to stay at the Nature Center for lunch and exploration, or visit the Lutz Children's Museum at no extra charge.

The program costs \$8 per child and includes one free admission coupon to the museum. There is a minimum charge of \$100. Chaperones are free. Programs are planned for a maximum of twenty five students. Please call if you are interested in accommodations for larger group sizes.

## **Bird Search**

Many different types of birds can be found at the Oak Grove Nature Center. We will learn who they are, what sounds they make, and where they live. Visits during good weather will include an outdoor search in addition to meeting birds from the LCM collection.

Science Content Standards: 1.2, 3.2

## **Bug Hunt**

It's time for a Bug Hunt! Get your walking shoes, magnifying glasses, and nets ready...it's time to explore the bugs at the Oak Grove Nature Center! We will meet living bugs from the museum's collection, walk the trails in search of bugs, and learn some simple techniques used in bug identification.

Science Content Standards: K.1, K.2, 1.2, 1.3, 3.2

## **The Podunks of Manchester**

The Podunks walked the trails of Manchester 400 years ago. Join us at the Nature Center for an examination of the lifestyle and culture of Manchester's native people. Explore the similarities and differences of the way we live in Manchester today!

Social Studies Content Standards: 1, 2, 4, 9

## **Printing with Nature**

In this program we will explore shapes, colors, textures, and patterns using objects found in nature. After walking the nature trails in search of interesting objects (leaves, acorns, rocks, etc), we will return to the nature center. Then, by combining these natural materials with paint and stamping them on paper, we'll create fun, one-of-a-kind prints and designs.

Recommended Grades: K-2

Visual Art Content Standards: 1.a, 1.d, 2.b

# Educational Loan Kits ---

The Lutz Children's Museum offers educational loan kits to be used in your classroom! These kits are designed to bring the museum right to your classroom or organization in an affordable package. They are filled with artifacts and teacher activities and tips on how to teach using museum artifacts. We hope you will love them as much as we do!

Educational loan kits are loaned out for a two week period at a charge of \$25. Topics currently available are: **Puppetry, Music, Dance, The 1960's, Habitats, and Observe-A-Bird.**