



Lutz Children's Museum's
2006-2007

Teacher Newsletter

Programming

The Lutz Children's Museum is dedicated to providing hands-on learning in a dynamic environment. We offer a variety of programs for classrooms, special events and field trips. Unless otherwise noted, there is a maximum limit of twenty-five children per program in order to maintain educational quality.

Resource Lessons: Museum Educators will join your classroom for forty-five to sixty minutes with fun and informative activities and artifacts. The fee for a Resource Lesson is \$100 per program with an additional charge of 50 cents per mile. The following program topics are currently available; customized topics may be available upon request.

Self-Guided Group Visits: 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 experience 19th century Manchester farm life in our newest exhibit or visit with some of the wild and domestic animals housed in our "Animal Room". Book your Tuesday or Wednesday group visit in advance and chaperones will be admitted free. This special deal is for groups of ten or more children. Admission is \$5.

Focus Group Visits: Come join an educator at the museum for a fun-filled, forty-five minute educational program. Participants will also be given time to explore the museum with their chaperones. The cost is \$7 per child with a minimum charge of \$70. Chaperones are admitted free. All focus group visits to the museum are scheduled on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 9:30, 10:15, and 11:00. Program topics are listed on the next page.

Special Events: Having a special event for large groups? We have new programs which can accommodate larger crowds in an auditorium setting. We can do a program for the entire crowd or set up a booth to accommodate a steady flow of individuals. These programs are perfect for fairs. Call for more details!

Educational Standards

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

Methods for Booking

Booking a program by phone may not easily fit into your workday, so we have an alternative. You can call **860-643-0949** as usual or you can visit our website at **www.lutzmuseum.org**. Download a "Program Request Form" and submit your request to **frontdesk@lutzmuseum.org**. Popular time slots fill quickly so try to reserve your program as soon as possible.

Resource Lesson Topics

Meet the Animals

A museum educator will visit your group with live animals from the museum's collection as well as some animal artifacts. Your group will compare the major animal groups and take a hands-on approach to discovering their differences.

Recommended Grades: ALL AGES

Science Standards: K.2, 1.2, 3.2, 4.2, 5.2

School Days of Long Ago

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

Recommended Grades: ALL AGES

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

Can I Borrow Your Bones?

Vertebrate or invertebrate? Skeleton or exoskeleton? Not only will we discuss the differences and similarities of these two classifications, but we will meet a live example of each.

Recommended Grades: K, 1

Science Standards: K.2, 1.2

Puppetry

Children will explore a variety of puppets from the museum's collection. We will compare hand, rod, and shadow puppets to determine how each kind is made and operated. Conversation and the sharing of materials to create and use a puppet will be encouraged to enhance language development and social skills.

Recommended Grades: 1, 2, 3

Art Standards: 1, 2, 3, 4

The Festivals of China

Many of the traditions of ancient China are still followed today. They are especially significant during holidays. With the help of artifacts, Chinese culture and symbols of good luck will be discussed. Each child will decorate a paper lantern similar to those used for festivals.

Recommended Grades: 1, 2, 3

Social Studies Standards: 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 11, 12

What are you wearing?

Not all animals have hair covering their bodies like we do. We will discuss how scientists use the covering on an animal's body to classify them. Techniques that animals with fur, feathers, and scales use to adapt to temperature change will also be discussed.

Recommended Grades: 1, 2, 3

Science Standards: K.1, K.4, 1.2, 3.2

Life Cycles

All living things follow some sort of plan or cycle that shapes them from birth to adults. Many animals are born looking like small versions of their parents, while others go through complete metamorphosis. We will discuss the requirements that must be present in order for many of these changes to take place. Children will be able to touch a few living specimens.

Recommended Grades: 1, 2, 3

Science Standards: 1.2, 1.3, 2.2, 2.4, 3.2

To Move or Not to Move

Mrs. Chapin, a costumed interpreter, must decide with the help of students whether to move with her family from her small, rural town to Manchester, the "City of Village Charm".

Recommended Grades: 3

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

Endangered Species

All over the world there are animals in trouble. Their survival may be threatened by people or habitat destruction. Children will be introduced to the problems that animals face, play an endangered species game, and meet some live animals.

Recommended Grades: 3, 4, 5

Science Standards: 3.3, 3.4, 4.2, 5.2

Family Heritage

What does it really mean to be an American? In this program, we'll talk about our individual family heritages and learn how we came to be such a diverse community. A special focus on Mexican heritage will be illustrated with clothing and artifacts from the museum's collection and a special activity.

Recommended Grades: 2

Social Studies Standards: 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 11, 12

Focus Group Visit Topics

Meet the Animals

A museum educator will visit your group with live animals from the museum's collection as well as some animal artifacts. Your group will compare the major animals groups and take a hands-on approach to discovering their differences.

Recommended Grades: ALL AGES

Science Standards: K.2, 1.2, 3.2, 4.2, 5.2

Curious Curator

Come explore the inner workings of a museum and learn about how exhibits are created and built. Students will compare archeology and paleontology and will discuss ways of preserving the past. We will work hands on with the museum's collection and will even piece together a baby triceratops "skeleton"!

Recommended Grades: PK, K

Social Studies Standards: 3, 4, 9, 10

All About Birds

Why do birds have feathers and beaks? We will learn all about different characteristics of birds and talk about how beak form is related to function. We will play a matching game in which we match up feathers with the live residents of our animal room. Children will also have an opportunity to meet a bird up close.

Recommended Grades: PK, K

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

Barnyard Animals

In this program, children will learn about all the different animals that live on farms. We will discuss what they eat, how they are cared for, and why they are found on a farm. We will even get to meet a live chicken!

Recommended Grades: K, 1, 2

Science Standards: K.2, 1.2, 1.3, 2.4

The Podunks of Manchester

Students will learn about the Podunk tribe, which populated Manchester prior to Colonial Settlement. They will work with Native American artifacts and learn about historical and cultural practices of indigenous tribes including the Podunk's food sources, shelters, and tribal stories. Students will also learn about natural resources.

Recommended Grades: 1, 2, 3

Social Studies Standards: 2, 3, 4, 11, 13

Growing Up Colonial

This lesson explores the history of children's lives in Colonial Connecticut. Students will role play daily activities of children their age using archives and other period props. They will also contrast Native American and European traditions including chores, schooling, and village life.

Recommended Grades: K, 1, 2, 3

Social Studies Standards: 1, 2, 3, 4, 12

Fun with Feet

Feet can be used for much more than just walking. We will learn about all different types of animal feet and what they use them for. Then we will do an activity where we make tracks of our own.

Recommended Grades: 1, 2, 3

Science Standards: 1.2, 3.2

How Animals Protect Themselves

Children will learn about various ways that animals protect themselves from predators, including camouflage, eyespots, mimicry, shells, and spikes. We will look at artifacts from our collection as well as live animals.

Recommended Grades: 1, 2, 3

Science Standards: 1.2, 1.3, 3.2

Lutz Off-site Group Visits ---

These one hour topics, recommended for all ages, are held off-site in order to use resources such as our fifty-two acre nature preserve. After the program is over, groups are welcome to stay on-site for lunch and exploration or to travel to the Lutz Children's Museum. The program costs \$7 per child with chaperones free of charge and includes one free-admission coupon for each child. There is a minimum charge of \$100. Programs are planned for a maximum of twenty-five students; please call if you are interested in accommodations for larger group sizes.

Hug-a-tree

This program will give children the experience of hiking outdoors... rain, snow, or shine! This one hour program will cover many topics including nature clues, recycling, and seasonal changes. We will focus on what trees are used for, why we should help preserve trees, how trees are affected by the seasons, and what types of animals need trees to survive. We will prepare ourselves for a nature walk with fun, educational activities inside our Nature Center. Nature Center amenities are limited during winter months.

Location: Oak Grove Nature Center, Manchester

Recommended Grade: PK, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Science Standards: all K, all 1, all 2, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 4.2, 4.3

Please Visit! We invite all teachers to visit the museum free of charge to explore our new 'Farm Life' exhibit, which explores life on a Connecticut farm. In this exhibit we have sought to integrate science and humanities education with a variety of fun games and activities. Children can work hands-on with 19th century collections or come face to face with a corn snake. We have a cow which can be milked, pigs that need to be fed, sheep that need to be shorn as well as a hay loft, chicken coop, and a farm kitchen for children to play in. This is our best exhibit yet – come and see!

We need you! Please help us help you! We are looking for advice on what types of programs are most complementary to your classroom. In particular, we are seeking copies of curriculum, ideas for topics, and feedback from programming. Please call if you are willing to help in any way.

Pass the Word! We offer extra-curricular enrichment programs in addition to what we do in schools. With your help, we send a bimonthly copy of *Lutz Up* home to your students. These newsletters include information about our family-oriented educational field trips as well as our after-school programs. Additional details on classes, birthday parties, scout programs, concerts, and trips can be found on our website at: www.lutzmuseum.org.