



# Lutz Children's Museum's 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 to be 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. We would appreciate the opportunity to collaborate on special projects that enhance your student's educational experience.

## Booking A Program

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Educational programs can be scheduled by contacting museum staff at **860-643-0949 x15** or by sending an email to **frontdesk@lutzmuseum.org**.

## Resource Lessons

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An experienced museum educator will lead your classroom in fun and educational activities. Our educators teach science, humanities and visual arts while utilizing live animals, artifacts and experiential games.

**Cost:** \$125 and 60¢ per mile of travel; \$200 if a science resource lesson is booked with lab component

**Science & Humanities Programs:** 45 minutes; 1.5 hours when booked with lab component

**Visual Arts Programs:** 60 minutes

## Plan A Trip

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Visiting the museum is a fun and educational field trip! Come explore our newest exhibit: Connecticut Forests. Stroll around 1940's Main Street Manchester, experience 19th Century Manchester Farm Life, or visit some of the wild and domestic animals housed in our Animal Room. Increase the educational value of your trip by adding a fun and informative program taught by a museum educator.

**Field Trips:** \$7 per student; 1 chaperone is admitted free with every 10 students; additional chaperones are \$7.

**Field Trip with Educational Programming:** \$12 per student; 1 chaperone is admitted free with every 10 students; additional chaperones are \$12. Our programs fill quickly, please book your field trip in advance for the best availability.

## Educational Standards

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All museum programs meet performance standards in Connecticut's K-12 Curriculum Framework. Specific content standards are indicated within each program description. Please contact us if you would like more information about how individual programs meet these standards. Science Content Standards are listed as: Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) followed by the Grade-Level Expectation. Social Studies Content Standards (SSCS) are listed by the strand for each grade level. Music and art standards are listed through the National Core Art Standards.

## Program Structure

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Help us provide the best program possible! Please advise us at the time of scheduling of any special needs or allergies within your group. If you have questions feel free to speak directly with the educator delivering your program. We ask that you remain in the room for the duration of the program. Please handle any classroom management issues you normally would, to provide consistency.

## Lutz Up!

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Our quarterly newsletter is distributed through many school districts with 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 and promptly distribute it into student's backpacks. **Thanks for your help!**

# Science Programs

## **Overflowing Ecosystems**

Just how many plants and animals can one ecosystem handle? An ecosystem's carrying capacity is constantly changing, but what factors are causing this change? We will learn how to define an ecosystem's carrying capacity as well as how humans can alter the balance of an ecosystem. Ecosystems have the necessities of life. What do you think happens when too many plants and animals are living among on another?

*Recommended Grades: K-5* — Grade K: Topic will focus on habitats and what animals need to survive. LS1.C, ESS3.A, ESS3.C; Grade 2-5: Students will focus on how ecosystem change impact the populations living there. There will also be a focus on the human impact on wildlife. Grade 2: LS4.D; Grade 3: LS2.C, LS2.D, LS4.C, LS4.D; Grade 4: LS1.A; Grade 5: LS4.D

**Introducing a  
NEW LAB COMPONENT  
for your resource lesson!  
Please ask an educator during  
the time of booking  
for more details.**

## **Animal Classification**

Mammals, reptiles, birds, mollusks and so many more! We will learn how members of the same group of animals are similar and different. Students will be able to identify many groups of animals, including reptiles, fish, and echinoderms.

*Recommended Grades: K-5* — Grade K-1: This class will focus on identifying groups of animals. Students will be able to name similarities and differences within groups of animals. Grade K: LS1.C, ESS3.A; Grade 1: LS3.B; Grade 3: This class will focus on levels of taxonomy and where animals belong on the taxonomic tree. LS4.A, LS3.A, LS3.B, LS4.B

## **Track That Animal!**

Have you ever gone for a walk in the woods and seen a footprint or maybe some fresh scat? Evidence of animal presence teaches us about how animals survive in their habitats. From caves to trees, an animal's home needs to provide food, water, and shelter for survival.

*Recommended Grades: K-3* — Grade K: LS1.C, ESS2.E, ESS3.A; Grade 1: LS1.A, LS1.B; Grade 2: LS4.D; Grade 3: LS2.C, LS2.D

## **Food Web Explorer**

From the energy provided by the sun to the apex predators at the top of the food web, we will learn how energy flows through this system. Topics such as decomposers, producers, and consumers will be discussed as well as what is not biodegradable in an ecosystem.

*Recommended Grades: K, 3, 5* — Grade K: LS1.C; Grade 3: LS2.C, LS2.D; Grade 5: PS3.D, LS1.C, LS2.A

## **Camouflage, Shells, and Spikes – Oh My!**

Animals have many adaptations to defend themselves from predators. Being prey is not an easy task. Camouflage keeps them hidden while spikes and bright colors scare predators away. We will learn how animals use their body coverings as ways of defense to survive this wild world.

*Recommended Grades: K-3* — Grade K: LS1.C; Grade 1: LS1.A, LS1.D; Grade 2: LS4.D; Grade 3: LS4.C

## **Life Cycle Exploration**

From tadpoles to frogs, caterpillars to butterflies, and seeds to sprouts, every living thing changes as it grows. In this series, two options are available based on teacher and classroom needs. A lesson surrounding metamorphosis will allow students to explore the lifecycles of amphibians, butterflies, and other insects (recommended for grades 1-4). A lesson surrounding seeds and sprouts will allow students to explore was plants need for germination, growth, and seed dispersal (recommended for grades 2-4).

*Recommended Grades: K-4*

Metamorphosis — Grade K: LS1.C, ESS3.A; Grade 1: LS1.A, LS1.B; Grade 3: LS1.B; Grade 4: LS1.A

Seeds and Sprouts — Grade 1: LS1.A, LS1.B, LS3.A; Grade 2: LS2.A; Grade 3: LS1.B; Grade 4: LS1.A

# Humanities Programs

## **Monet's Pond Life**

Claude Monet painted his pond more than 250 times during his career! He painted during all seasons and under all kinds of weather. We will look at a dozen of Monet's pond paintings while discussing his colors and brushstrokes. Using watercolors, students will make their own impressionist pond painting. Students will be able to touch many pond-life artifacts from the museum's collection, including a live animal.

*Recommended Grades: K-5*

Science Content Standards: K.3.a.3, 1.1.a.6, 1.3.a.1, 1.3.a.2, 2.3.b.3, 3.2.a.4, 4.2.a.4, 5.1.b.14, 5.2.a.3

CCSS for Mathematics: K.CC.1, K.CC.2, 1.NBT.1

SSCS: 1.5

Core Art Standards: VA:Cr3.1.Ka, VA:Re8.1.Ka, VA:Cr2.2.1a, VA:Re.7.2.1a, VA:Re8.1.2a, VA:Cn11.1.2a, VA:Re7.1.3a, VA:Re7.2.3a, VA:Re7.1.4a, VA:CR2.2.4a, VA:Re7.1.5a

NGSS: K-LS1-1, ESS3.A, 1-LS1.A, LS2.A, LS2.D, 4-LS1-1

## **Eric Carle's Creations: The Very Hungry Caterpillar**

Read, Learn, Touch, and Create. Learn about author and illustrator Eric Carle. Read his book "The Very Hungry Caterpillar". Discuss the monarch butterfly and see butterfly artifacts from the Lutz Museum's Science Collection. Create your own colorful butterfly using Eric Carle's collage technique.

*Recommended Grades: K-2*

Science Content Standards: 1.3.a.1, 1.3.a.2, 1.3.a.3

Core Art Standards: VA:Cr1.2.Ka, VA:Cr2.1.Ka, VA:Cr3.1.1a, VA:Cr2.1.1a, VA:Cr3.1.1a, VA:Re.7.2.1a, VA:Cr2.1.2a, VA:Cr2.3.2a, VA:Cr3.1.2a

NGSS: K-LS1-1, K-ESS3-1, LS1.B, LS1.A

## **Wildlife Illustration**

Set out on an adventure where you will travel to a distant land and become a wildlife illustrator who observes and draws a live animal in the classroom. This storytelling adventure includes time travel, images from art history, a 16th century king, and a boat trip from Europe. Students will learn the power of observation AND fun drawing techniques.

*Recommended Grades: K-5*

Science Content Standards: 1.2.a.5, 3.2.a.3, 4.2.a.4

SSCS: 2.3, 3.2

Core Art Standards: VA:Cr1.2.1a, VA:Cn:11.1.1a, VA:Cn:11.1.2a, VA:Cr3.1.3a, VA:Cn10.1.3a, VA:Re.7.1.4a, VA:Cr2.3.5a

NGSS: K-LS1-1, K-ESS3-1, LS1.A, LS3.A, 2-LS4-1, LS2.C, 3-LS4-4, LS4.C, 4-LS1-1, 4-LS1-2

## **Podunks**

The Podunk Tribe lived in Manchester over 400 years ago. Your students will travel 'back in time' to learn about the Native American Tribe and culture. Students will have a chance study maps and touch artifacts as we compare what life was like back then to what your life is like now. Create your own artifact at the end of class.

*Recommended Grades: K-5*

SSCS: 1.2, 1.4, 1.6, 1.13, 2.1, 2.4

Core Art Standards: VA:Cr1.2.Ka, VA:Cr2.1.Ka, VA:Re:7.1.Ka, VA:re.7.2.Ka, VA:Pr6.1.1a, VA:Cn10.1.1a, VA:Cn11.1.1a, VA:Cr2.1.2a, VA:Cr3.1.2a, VA:Cn11.1.2a, VA:Cr1.2.3a, VA:Re2.7.2.3a, VA:Cr2.1.4a, VA:Re.7.1.4a, VA:Pr6.1.4a, VA:Re.7.1.5a, VA:Re7.5a

## **To Move or Not to Move**

Mrs. Chapin, a costumed interpreter from the 1800s, must decide with the help of the students whether to move with her family from a rural town to the big city. Students will learn about life in the late 1890s during the Victorian era.

*Recommended Grades: 2-5*

SSCS: K-5, 1.1, 1.9, 1.10, 2.4, 3.1, 3.3

## **School Days of Long Ago**

What better way is there to celebrate the 100th day of school than to learn about what school was like 100 years 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 class is taught by a costumed interpreter.

*Recommended Grades: 1-5*

SSCS: K-5 1.1, 1.9, 1.13, 2.4, 3.3



# Booth Style Program

## Cool Animals!

\$125 per hour

Have you ever seen a turtle sunning itself on a warm rock? Cold blooded species must find heat from their environment to stay warm. Through this interactive booth style program you will compare artifacts from cold blooded and warm blooded species. Your group will touch the thick fur on a rabbit pelt and feel the smooth shell of a painted turtle. You will also meet two cold blooded reptiles and have the chance to take a close look at their unique adaptations!



## ..... Scheduling Your Program .....

Please contact our education staff by phone or email.  
They are often away from the office delivering programs,  
but will respond to you within 2 business days.

Leave as much information as possible.

Please include a way to reach you after school hours.

- Teacher/Contact Person Name
- School/Organization Name
- Students Age/Grade
- Number of Students in the Group
- 1st/2nd/3rd Choice of Date and Time
- Teacher/Contact Person Primary Phone
- Teacher/Contact Person Secondary Phone
- Teacher/Contact Person E-Mail Address