

Explorations at the Museum (1, 2 or 3 Hours)

\$75.00 FOR 1 GROUP of UP TO 25 PARTICIPANTS for three hours. \$50.00 FOR 1 GROUP of UP TO 25 PARTICIPANTS for two hours. \$30.00 for an hour. Up to three groups can rotate through the activities at one time. In the three hour programs, lunch break is between the second and third activity. Chaperones are helpful, but not required. 1 chaperone per every 5 children is free, additional chaperones pay admission of \$3.00.



Unless other arrangements are made, please bring your payment on the day of your trip.

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All programs are Next Gen Science Aligned.

Maine Ecosystem Programs - Choose one ecosystem to explore: **Forest, Field, Wetlands, or Coast.** See the museum dioramas, touch the specimens and models in the classroom, go on an outside ecology exploration, and explore adaptations.

Pond Explorations- Explore our pond with nets in hand, visit the museum collections to discover animals and plants live in the wetlands, and learn about different wetlands and their unique organisms.

Insects Everywhere - Explore the incredibly diverse and highly adaptable world of insects and their life cycles! Examine insect collections, participate in hands-on bug activities and go on a bug walk outside on the trails and fields.

Maine Native Americans - Examine stone tools to learn about Maine Native American prehistory, visit the museum's collections to see what Maine animals Native Americans used in daily life, examine baskets and craft a model story basket.

Rocks, Minerals and Fossils - Become a geologist! Touch minerals in the *Rocks in Your Life program*, examine igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks, look at rocks under a black light, tour our Maine minerals, examine fossil collections, and learn how fossils form and what they tell us about the past.

Maine's Beautiful Birds - Participate in a Maine Birds classroom program, discover our wonderful owls, go on a bird walk and draw and/or watercolor a picture of a bird in the museum collection. Learn how birds are adapted to their habitat.

Exploring Earth's Incredible Seasons -Why does the Earth have seasons? Do an activity to revolve around the sun, explore the seasons of Maine in the collections, and take a forest walk to see signs of the season. On sunny days, look at the sun through the telescope!

Naturalist Nature Journals- Explore museum, field, and forest while creating a small nature journal to record observations through drawings and writing. Learn how science, writing and art combine to further creativity and wonder! Science and Art combine in this perfect "STEAM" activity! (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math)

**Programs for
all ages!**



Additional Themed Walks and Outdoor Explorations:

These 1 Hour Walks can be added to any activity, tour or visit!

Birds (songs and adaptations), **Inspiring Wonder in the Woods** (forest walk with creative activity), **Insects** (use nets, magnifying glasses), **Endangered and Invasive** (outside invaders and endangered inside), **Winter Tracks, Why We Have Seasons, Maine Mammals, and Trees or Wildflowers.** If there is a part of the outdoors that you are studying, our experienced staff can often make it work!



MORE FUN TO ADD: Daytime Telescopic Observing at L.C. Bates!

Use the Museum's safe solar telescope to take a close-up look at our nearest star, the Sun. Learn about solar activity and its effects on Earth from knowledgeable staff and volunteers. Take a photo of the sun that we can email you later to impress your school! (*weather dependent*)

Traveling Programs: for Schools, Libraries, and Organizations!

Outreach programs that come to you! = \$65.00 for the first presentation and \$35.00 for additional presentations the same day, plus mileage at \$.42 per mile.

(If your location is an hour ride or more from the museum there will be an additional fee for travel time.)

Maine Ecosystems:

Choose one: Wetland, Field, Forest or Coast- Explore a habitat up close. Each program will include: real specimens, skulls, feathers, tracks, scat, and sounds. Discuss amphibians and beavers in the wetlands, mammals of the forest, the food chain of the field, and mollusks of the coast. In summer or early fall, ask about live animals that can travel!

Earth Science:

Rocks in your life- Explore rocks and minerals and how we use them in our daily lives. Try out rock experiments like floating rocks, drawing with rocks, and rocks under a black light!

Fascinating Fossils- Find out how fossils form, examine different kinds of real fossils and learn what fossils tell us about our earth's history and evolution. See the Maine state fossil as well as trilobites, dinosaurs, plants, insects and more.

Plants:

Trees: Magnificent Marvels - Learn how trees grow and change. Examine trunk sections and leaf shapes, learn how to ID some common Maine trees, and explore simple or compound leaves. Use models to see inside a tree!

Flower Power and Pollination- Explore the flower life cycle from seed to blossom. Learn about the varied pollinators that help plants grow. Use models to explore the structure and function of flowers.

Animal Studies:

Marvelous Maine Birds- Study bird mounts, nests, feathers, eggs, tracks, skulls, and listen to songs. Learn about birds' adaptations to the different habitats in Maine. Dissect an owl pellet to see what an owl ate for dinner!

Bugs, Bugs, Bugs- Learn about the wonderful variety of insects through models, specimens, pictures and slides. Practice "being a bug". Explore mimicry, adaptation, camouflage, and metamorphosis.

Maine's Amazing Mammals- Explore the amazing variety of mammals by examining tracks and scat, and the world of carnivores, herbivores, and omnivores. Discuss how the food chain works.

Nocturnal Animals- Explore owls, bats, moths and many more animals that are awake at night. Explore how different adaptations allow an animal to survive and thrive in darkness.

The World of Reptiles- Uncover the fascinating diversity and adaptations of snakes, turtles, lizards, alligators, and crocodiles. Discover Maine's reptiles through skulls, skins, shells, and pictures.

NEW! Animals Eat Smart- Explore food chains and what animals eat that keep them healthy. Delve into carnivores, herbivores and omnivores with skulls, models, furs and more!





Art: Putting the “a” into “STEAM”!

Art and Beautiful Birds-Explore the Museum’s Audubon Room or taxidermy mounts brought to your program, then draw and watercolor a bird you select. Learn some watercolor tips too.

Nature Journals- Explore collections and create a small nature journal to record observations through drawings and writing. Learn how science, writing and art combine to further creativity and wonder! Science and Art combine in this perfect “STEAM” activity!

Other Art programs: We do many other art programs including: observational drawings, oil pastels, printing, sand paintings, sponge paintings, yarn drawings, charcoal, and more! Please ask us about other art options that we can bring to you.

Maine History:

Maine’s Native Peoples and Prehistoric Stone Tools- Examine and use archaeological tools to learn about Maine’s prehistory, the hunter and gatherer culture, and the science of archaeology.

LEARNING ABOUT THE PAST- Life in Maine in the early 1900’s - See and try household tools, schoolwork, chores, toys, and clothes from the 1900’s. Bring the past to life!

For the Younger Crowd! (Pre K through 1st)

Here are a few we recommend: Indoor/ Outdoor Pond, Insects, Dinosaurs and Birds

One Hour is \$30 for a group and 1.5 Hours is \$40

THE VERY YOUNG NATURALIST - Discuss forest, field, wetland and seashore by looking at shells, feathers, antlers, insect models, and other objects. Listen to the sounds of nature. This program can travel and travel rates apply.

(see section “Traveling Programs” for pricing on the road.)

TOURS

\$3.00 FOR ADULTS; \$1.00 STUDENTS (teachers Free) (1 hour)

General – Museum guides lead groups through the museum exhibits. Visitors will investigate the displays and ask and answer questions about them.

Focused Tours and Activities – Teachers or other group leaders can telephone us and create a specialized tour which emphasizes the exhibits in the museum that address special topics including:

Inspiring Wonder in the Woods– A Walk and Creative activity, Maine Birds, Owls, Endangered Species, Bats, Old Time Toys, Art Exhibits, Insects, Marine Life, Sun Telescope Viewings, Using the Printing Press, Why there are Seasons, and Mammal Skulls.

Payment methods: Checks made out to L.C Bates Museum, Cash or PO. Unless other arrangements are made, please have your payment on the day of the visit.

The Museum Gift Shop features many inexpensive interesting and educational items that can spark curiosity and extend the learning experience. (Teachers can pre-select a store item for each child, such as a mineral or fossil for \$2.00, that will be packaged for the class.)

We also do fun themed birthday parties! For example, imagine a party where you catch frogs with kids then create frog art at your next party! Call us.

