



Lutz Children's Museum's  
2012-2013

# 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 or special 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 custom designed after school programs and scout programs delivered by museum educators.

## 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** include a program and an opportunity to explore the trails on a local nature preserve.

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

**Booth-style Programs** are available for events and fairs.

## Program Structure

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Help us to 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 who will be delivering your program. We ask that you remain in the room for the duration of the program. Please handle any classroom management issues as you normally would, to provide consistency.

## 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 newsletters into student's backpacks. **Thanks for your help!**

# Group Visit Topics

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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*. Book your 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. Our programs book quickly. Please book in advance for the best availability.

## Science Programs

### Boogie Bones

Bring your students to the museum for some scary skeletal fun. Learn about the bones in our bodies, including what they are made of, how they work, and what happens when they break. Compare human bones to other animal bones and see whether we can find any similarities or differences.

Recommended Grades: K-5

Science Content Standards: K.2, 2.4

### Lots of Legs

Animals can get around in many different ways, some with very many legs! In this program, students will learn about animals that have 2, 4, 6, 8, or 10 legs. How can we use the number of legs to classify different animals into groups? We will find out and meet some examples from our collection.

Recommended Grades: K-2

Science Content Standards: K.2, 1.2

### Terrific Trees

Trees have a variety of uses for both humans and animals. Students will learn about the different parts of a tree, how to count tree rings, and how to identify some common Connecticut trees by their seeds or leaves. This program includes a short outdoor component, so students should dress appropriately for the weather.

Recommended Grades: 1-4

Science Content Standards: 1.2, 2.2, 3.2, 3.4

## Humanities Programs

### Wildlife Artists

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 learn about some famous wildlife artists and have the opportunity to observe and sketch a variety of animals that call the Lutz Children's Museum their home.

Recommended Grades: K-4

Visual Art Content Standards: 1.c, 3.b, 5.d, 6.e

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### *Programs Back By Popular Demand*

**Animals of the Night • Nutrition • Animal Protection • Junior Zookeepers  
Fur, Feathers and Scales • Talking Bugs • Endangered Species**

# 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 travel charge of 60 cents per mile. Night and weekend programs may be possible for an additional fee. The following program topics are currently available. Customized topics may also be arranged.

## Science Programs

### Homes and Habitats

Investigate the many different types of houses and habitats animals choose to call home. Would your students build a sturdy wooden house like the beaver? Or, would they pick a soft feathery nest like a bird?

Recommended Grades: K-5

Science Content Standards: K.1, K.4, 1.2, 2.4, 3.1

### Ecosystems

Turn your classroom into its own ecosystem. Students will work together and become producers, consumers, and decomposers in order to create a stable food web. Take the lesson one step further and learn how easy it is to upset the balance of our precious endangered ecosystems.

Recommended Grades: 2-5

Science Content Standards: 2.4, 4.2

### Migrators and Hibernators

How do animals in Connecticut react to the changing seasons? Learn about behavioral adaptations (like migrating and hibernating) and physical adaptations (like changing fur color and consistency) that animals rely on for survival.

Recommended Grades: K-3

Science Content Standards: K.3, 1.2, 3.2

### Life Cycles

Insects and amphibians both undergo metamorphosis, meaning they change into different forms when they become adults. We will compare insect and amphibian life cycles using artifacts, displays, and live examples. We will also learn to identify some species of frogs that are common to Connecticut.

Recommended Grades: K-2

Science Content Standards: 1.3

## Humanities Programs

### 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.

Recommended Grades: 2-5

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: 1-5

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

### Comics and Graphic Novels

Comics and graphic novels are an exciting fusion of art and storytelling. In this program, we will examine graphic novels from a critical perspective and discover how they are created. We will work together to brainstorm character, setting, and plot ideas, and then begin to draw our own personalized stories.

Recommended Grades: 2-4

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

# Visit Our Nature Center! \_\_\_\_\_

These forty-five minute 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. Book your program in advance and chaperones will be admitted free with groups of ten or more children. Programs are planned for a maximum of twenty-five students; please call if you are interested in accommodations for larger group sizes.

## **The Podunks of Manchester**

The Podunk Tribe 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 between their lives and the way we live in Manchester today!

Recommended Grades: K-5

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

## **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.

Recommended Grades: K-5

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 some living bugs from the museum's collection, walk the trails in search of bugs, and learn some simple techniques used in bug identification.

Recommended Grades: K-5

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

# 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, as well as 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 1960s, Habitats and Observe-A-Bird.**