Field Trip Guide
2022-2023
Welcome to the Danville Science Center!

The Science Center is here to provide an exciting, fun and challenging experience for your next field trip. Students will get hands on to connect classroom content to the amazing world around us as they discover that STEM is part of almost every aspect of life! We have a wealth of Live Science Programs and Dome features to help your students wrap their arms around the wonders of STEM.

In this guide, you’ll find options for your next field trip outlined by grade level. When you’re ready to book, give us a call at 434.791.5160 ext. 203.

Don’t forget that group leaders planning a visit are always admitted free, so join us early to explore our exhibit galleries before your field trip. When you visit, be sure to ask about our complimentary educator memberships.

Visit our website, dsc.smv.org, or find us on Facebook and Instagram for updates and late-breaking information about Science Center programs and events.

We look forward to your visit!

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Programs for Outreach

We bring the excitement of the Science Center to you! Throughout this guide, you will see programs noted with OUTREACH. Those programs are available to be presented offsite in the classroom. Make your reservation today!

STARLAB Portable Planetarium

The STARLAB is available as one of the Science Center’s outreach programs. Discover the relationship between the Sun, Earth and Moon while exploring the planets. Explore current and upcoming space missions. Learn about repeating cycles and patterns that occur on Earth and the reasons behind those patterns as well as why we experience the change in seasons. The presentations correspond to Virginia SOLs K.10, 1.6, 1.7, 3.8, 3.11, 4.7 and 4.8.

Outreach programs are $150 for the first program each day. Each additional program on the same day is $75. Up to five programs can be scheduled on one day at your school. Programs are designed to serve up to 25 students per session. A mileage fee will apply for travel greater than 35 miles one way.

Call 434.791.5160, ext. 201 or email our Education Coordinator at bbuchanan@smv.org.
One World, One Sky
Travel with Sesame Street’s Big Bird, Elmo and Hu Hu Zhu on an imaginary trip to the Moon, where they discover how different it is from Earth. Discover a brilliant spectacle of light and color as you watch the stars twinkle over Sesame Street and interact with the show.

Animal Adaptations OUTREACH
Animals have basic needs, as well as physical and behavioral characteristics that help them survive in a variety of climates. Explore the diversity of organisms and how they adapt to their environments.

Floating Boats
Some things in our environment sink and others float. Investigate these concepts and discover what things will and will not float. Learn how to make a boat that will float heavy objects. How much weight will it take to sink your boat?

Build a Butterfly OUTREACH
Investigate these beauties of the insect world. From metamorphosis to food sources to symmetry, these animals are a wonderful starting point for understanding life cycles, camouflage and interdependency.

Earth, Moon & Sun
Earth, Moon & Sun explores the relationship among those cosmic bodies with the help of Coyote, an amusing character adapted from Native American oral traditions who has many misconceptions about our home planet. His confusion about the universe makes viewers think about how the Earth, Moon and Sun work together as a system. Includes a short live sky astronomy show.

Pre-k & K
These budding scientists are constantly investigating and absorbing the world around them! To boost their innate curiosity, these recommended programs explore basic scientific concepts and skills.

Each program is approximately 30 minutes and can accommodate up to 30 guests. Programs with OUTREACH are available to be presented offsite in the classroom.

RECOMMENDED ITINERARY

OTHER OPTIONS

Super Senses OUTREACH
Have you ever followed your nose to find freshly baked cookies, investigated a strange sound or shaken a package to guess what was inside? Learn about your five senses as we trick our eyes and stump our sniffers with interactive games.

Sow It – Grow It OUTREACH
Plants are producers, with seeds, flowers, roots, stems and leaves, which are a must for animals and people on Earth. Students sow their own seeds of learning with hands-on explorations of common plants.

Crescent Crossing
Connect young students to hands-on opportunities to discover concepts of the importance of science, technology, engineering and math fundamentals, such as creativity, problem solving, and cause and effect in this visually stimulating train-themed exhibition.

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Butterfly Station and Garden
Tour our Butterfly Station and Garden to view some of nature’s most beautiful creatures! Find out which type of caterpillar eats certain plants, learn the best methods to attract butterflies and get inspired to create your own butterfly garden. Available mid-April through mid-October (weather dependent).
Zula Patrol: Down to Earth

While on a fossil hunting expedition, the Zula Patrol turns up evidence that the villainous Deliria Delight has been traveling back in time to Earth to illegally dump her company’s toxic trash. The Zula patrollers must catch her before her actions cause catastrophic consequences. Our heroes learn all about the development of the Earth and the life forms that call it home. Includes a short live sky astronomy show.

Grade 1

First graders are adventurers and explorers! To unlock the secrets of science, our recommended programs explore fundamental concepts to develop an understanding of a broad range of animals, plants and their life needs.

Recommended Itinerary

Each program is approximately 30 minutes and can accommodate up to 30 guests. Programs with OUTREACH are available to be presented offline in the classroom.

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Good Vibrations OUTREACH

What is sound? How does sound travel and how is it measured? Make waves while learning all the news about noise.

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Magic Globe: A Story of the Seasons

On vacation at her grandpa’s, Mia accidentally discovers a mysterious piece of astronomical machinery. Edmund, Mia’s eccentric uncle, tricks the girl into using the tool’s secret powers to change the world’s seasons. She quickly realizes the consequences of what they are going to do, but Edmund doesn’t want to let the plan go.

Go

Go! highlights the intersection between the physics of machines and the biology of the human body. Test your strength with a giant lever to lift weights (or other guests); race against the clock to test reaction time; act like a hamster and turn mechanical energy into electric energy on the tread wheel; or race a migrating monarch, Usain Bolt, or a black bear on our sprint track; and more. Collaborate, compete and get ready to go!

Butterfly Station and Garden

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Follow the adventures of Cy and Annie and their dog Armstrong as they embark on an unexpected journey into space! Explore the Earth, Sun and Moon system with a wise-cracking starship computer. Follow an asteroid crash into the Moon. Get up close and personal with a solar storm and gain a new appreciation of our home. Includes a short live sky astronomy show.

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**Grade 3**

Third graders become science explorers by conducting investigations. To help them unearth patterns and forces in the world around them, our recommended programs delve into energy transformations and soil science.

**RECOMMENDED ITINERARY**

Each program is approximately 30 minutes and can accommodate up to 30 guests. Programs with OUTREACH are available to be presented outside in the classroom.

**Simple Machines**
Can simple machines make work easier? Discover how levers, pulleys and inclined planes give us a helping hand through mechanical advantage.

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**Flight of the Butterflies**
Migrate with hundreds of millions of monarch butterflies across North America! Immerse yourself in this compelling adventure as you discover a super generation of butterflies as they travel to a new destination. Experience firsthand the beauty of the migration cycle of butterflies spanning not only thousands of miles but several generations!

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**Simply Soil OUTREACH**
What is the difference between soil and dirt? Separate soil into its four different sized particles and learn each component’s role in supporting plant life.

**The Web of Life OUTREACH**
Visualize the dynamics of the food web. Find out how energy travels from the Sun to green plants to bugs to birds and beyond.

**Water, Water Everywhere**
Observe the influence of pollution on the quality of water. Watch a demonstration of the water cycle and how this process leads to cleaner drinking water. Discover how different soil types aid in the filtration of water.

**Accidental Astronauts**
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**Water**
Discover history trapped in ice, experience clouds first hand, uncover life found in a droplet, plunge to the depths of the ocean, learn about water usage from a towering wall of 2,000+ water bottles, enter a room of rain and don’t get wet and more. Become immersed in the importance of every drop.

**OUTREACH**

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**OTHER OPTIONS**

**LIVE SCIENCE**

**Exhibits**

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Perfect Little Planet
Embark on a journey with an intergalactic family searching for the ultimate vacation spot. Discover our solar system through a new set of eyes as you walk the surface of Mars, sail through the rings of Saturn and discover lightning storms on Jupiter. Dive over the ice cliffs of Miranda and fly over the surface of the dwarf planet, Pluto. Includes a short live sky astronomy show.

LIVE SCIENCE
OUTREACH
3…2…1…Blast Off!
Explore potential and kinetic energy and test Newton’s Laws of Motion. Students have a blast using a Newton cart to propel their understanding of force and rocket propulsion.

Outreach: Opposites Attract
Discover the effects of magnets on objects while exploring attraction, repulsion and magnetic poles. Learn how magnets are used in daily life and investigate the interactions of magnets and electricity while constructing a simple speaker.

Outreach: Extreme Weather
Explore various weather phenomena, from cloud formation and lightning, to rising seas caused by the increase in ice cap and glacier melt.

RECOMMENDED ITINERARY
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Expedition Reef
Learn the secrets of the “rainforests of the sea” as you embark on an oceanic safari of the world’s most vibrant—and endangered—marine ecosystems. Along the way, discover how corals grow, feed, reproduce and support over 25 percent of all marine life on Earth, while facing unprecedented threats from climate change, habitat destruction and overfishing. Includes a short live sky astronomy show.

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Other Options
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Grade 5

Fifth graders challenge themselves with critical thinking. To help them understand more complex science principles, our recommended programs introduce key concepts of matter and Earth Science.

**RECOMMENDED ITINERARY**

Each program is approximately 30 minutes and can accommodate up to 30 guests. Programs with **OUTREACH** are available to be presented offsite in the classroom.

**The Big Chill: Cool CO₂ Science**
Dry-ice experiments offer dramatic demonstrations of scientific phenomena. Examine magic bubbles, bizarre balloons and fire extinguishers. Experience states of matter and phase changes with atoms, molecules and compounds in this ultra-cool program.

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**Dinosaurs of Antarctica**
From the Permian through the Jurassic, journey to the south polar landscapes of Antarctica hundreds of millions of years ago. Join intrepid Antarctic scientists on a quest to understand the ice continent’s profound transformation and to predict the future as humans drive dramatic change. Welcome to the lost prehistoric world of Gondwana. Welcome to Antarctica.

**Water**
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**Fossil Finds OUTREACH**
Learn Earth history through this fossil investigation. Dig into coastal plain sediments to discover diversity in ancient ocean environments.

**Rock ‘n’ Roll OUTREACH**
Learn about weathering, erosion, and major rock types as you explore the rock cycle. Discover rock types associated with fossils. Examine a variety of rock samples. Perform streak tests and discover surprising results. Make your own model of a metamorphic rock.

**Good Vibrations OUTREACH**
What is sound? How does sound travel, and how is it measured? Make waves while learning all the news about noise.

**LIVE SCIENCE**

**Dome**

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**Grossology & You**
Join Noreen Neuron, host of the Personal Universe game show, as she leads us through a competition to decide which body system is the best and brightest. Will it be Scabby (the immune system), Boogie (the respiratory system) or Flatus (the digestive system)? Laugh and learn as these animated characters explore the inner workings of the human body! Includes a short live sky planetarium show.

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**Riverside Science**

Learn about our local ecosystem and watershed directly from the Dan River. Walk down by the river for a firsthand lesson in ecology. Conduct water quality monitoring of samples collected from the river and then continue to reinforce concepts learned through a follow-up activity in the classroom.

**Extreme Weather**

Explore various weather phenomena, from cloud formation and lightning, to rising seas caused by the increase in ice cap and glacier melt.

**Water**

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**Grade 6**

Sixth graders are all about change – focusing on energy and ecology. To help them better understand the constant changes in our world, our recommended programs uncover changes in matter and in the solar system.
The Digital Dome Theater illuminates the universe with stunning clarity and brilliance on a gigantic 40-foot screen. With new Dome features added regularly to the Science Center’s show offerings, adventurers of all ages are in for a treat! Transport back in time, fly on the backs of pterosaurs and take a wild ride through the solar system with these dynamic new shows. Shows range from 30 to 45 minutes and seating is limited to 95 per show. Ask about our special show times for groups of 25 or more.

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Earth, Moon & Sun
Recommended for grades Pre-K – 5
29 minutes
Earth, Moon & Sun explores the relationship among those cosmic bodies with the help of Coyote, an amusing character adapted from Native American oral traditions who has many misconceptions about our home planet and its most familiar neighbors. His confusion about the universe makes viewers think about how the Earth, Moon and Sun work together as a system. Native American stories are used throughout the show to help distinguish between myths and science.

Grossology & You
Recommended for grades 4 & up
27 minutes
Join Noreen Neuron, host of the Personal Universe game show, as she leads us through a competition to decide which body system is the best and brightest. Will it be Scabby (the immune system), Boogie (the respiratory system), or Flatus (the digestive system)? Laugh and learn as these animated characters explore the inner workings of the human body.

Superpower Dogs
Recommended for grades 3 & up
44 minutes
Journey around the globe to meet remarkable dogs who save lives and discover the powerful bond they share with their human partners. Discover the incredible abilities of dogs and the astonishing science behind their superpowers. We’ll never look at our best friends the same way again.

Accidental Astronauts
Recommended for grades 2 – 5
32 minutes
Follow the adventures of Cy and Annie and their dog Armstrong as they embark on an unexpected journey into space! Explore the Earth, Sun and Moon system with a wise-cracking starship computer. Follow an asteroid as it crashes into the Moon. Get up close and personal with a solar storm and gain a new appreciation of our home.

Cosmic Journey: A Solar System Adventure
Recommended for grades 6 & up
23 minutes
Take a voyage to the outer reaches of our solar system in search of worlds that might support life. See volcanoes tower 80,000 feet above a barren surface and experience monstrous hurricanes and multicolored rings suspended in space. Enjoy the wonders of the planets and their moons as you travel faster than the speed of light! Includes a short live sky view.

Dinosaurs of Antarctica
Recommended for grades 4 & up
42 minutes
From the Permian through the Jurassic, journey to the south polar landscapes of Antarctica hundreds of millions of years ago. Enter a surreal world of bug-eyed giants and egg-laying mammals, where survival means enduring the sunless, six-month polar winter surrounded by meat eaters with night vision. Join intrepid Antarctic scientists on a quest to understand the ice continent’s profound transformation and to predict the future as humans drive climatic change. Welcome to the lost prehistoric world of Gondwana. Welcome to Antarctica.

Flight of the Butterflies
Recommended for grades 3 & up
44 minutes
Migrate with hundreds of millions of monarch butterflies across North America! Immerse yourself in this compelling adventure as you discover a super generation of butterflies as they travel to a new destination. Experience firsthand the beauty of the migration cycle of butterflies spanning not only thousands of miles but several generations!

Perfect Little Planet
Recommended for grades 3 – 6
38 minutes
Embark on a journey with an intergalactic family searching for the ultimate vacation spot. Discover our solar system through a new set of eyes as you walk the surface of Mars, sail through the rings of Saturn and discover lightning storms on Jupiter. Dive over the ice cliffs of Miranda and fly over the surface of the dwarf planet, Pluto.

One World, One Sky
Recommended for grades Pre-K – 1
30 minutes
Travel with Sesame Street’s Big Bird, Elmo and Hu Hu Zhu on an imaginary journey to the Moon, where they discover how different it is from Earth. Discover a brilliant spectacle of light and color as you watch the stars twinkle over Sesame Street and interact with the show.

Magic Globe: A Story of the Seasons
Recommended for grades 1 – 5
37 minutes
On vacation at her grandpa’s, Mia accidentally discovers a mysterious piece of astronomical machinery. Edmund, Mia’s eccentric uncle, tricks the girl into using the tool’s secret powers to change the world’s seasons. She quickly realizes the consequences of what they are going to do, but Edmund doesn’t want to let the plan go.

Nordic Skies: A Story of Our Sun
Recommended for grades 4 & up
35 minutes
With the sun at its coldest, the world’s ecosystems are being threatened. Follow the adventures of a young girl and her beetle friend as they explore the world’s romantic polar winter.
Touring Exhibitions

September 17, 2022 - January 2, 2023
Design is everywhere we look and in everything we do. Get behind the scenes and create your own skate park, dance beat, rollercoaster and more.

Design Zone was produced and is toured by the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry. This exhibit was made possible by a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant.

Hands-On Harley-Davidson

January 9 - May 15, 2023
STEM education and the wind in your face! This educational touring exhibition illustrates STEM concepts through a one-of-a-kind guest experience that lets kids Dream It! Build It! ... and Ride It!

Hands-On Harley-Davidson™ was created by the Betty Brinn Children’s Museum in collaboration with Harley-Davidson Motor Company. Hands-On Harley-Davidson and Harley-Davidson® are trademarks of H-D and are used with permission. © 2013 H-D. All rights reserved.

Make the Most of Your Visit

Hours of Operation:
Labor Day-Memorial Day:
Wednesday – Saturday, 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Memorial Day-Labor Day:
Tuesday – Saturday, 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sunday, 11:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Closed: November 25, December 24 and 25

Danville Science Center is located at:
677 Craghead Street Danville, VA 24541

Contact us:
434.791.5160 ext. 203 or dscgs@smv.org
dsc.smv.org

Group Admission Fees
For groups of 10 or more.
Exhibits + Digital Dome ........................................................... $8
Exhibits + Activity .................................................................... $8
Exhibits + Digital Dome + Activity ........................................$10

To ensure all our guests have the best experience possible, we suggest one adult chaperone for every 10 youth. School personnel are admitted free during a group visit. Additional parent/adult chaperones are $5 each. Call 434.791.5160 ext. 203 to start your journey today!

Since groups enjoy a discounted admission fee and exclusive programs, individual membership passes and other discounts and coupons are not valid toward group admission fees.

Trip Tips
• If the number of students and chaperones has changed by more than five persons since booking the visit, please call at least three days in advance to update your numbers.
• When possible, collect chaperone admission prior to your visit to make the payment and check-in process smoother.
• If bringing bagged lunches, have lunch bags together in boxes or totes to make unloading from buses easier.
• If you need to purchase lunches, please contact the vendors below directly.

Explore the Store!
Take a bit of the Science Center experience with you. The gift shop features a wide variety of science books, projects, games, and toys carefully selected to engage students in thinking about and exploring science.

Souvenir bags can be pre-packaged for students. Containing some of our most popular items, these bags can be assembled in a price range of $2 to $10 each. Please call 434.791.5160 ext. 203 at least one week in advance of your group’s visit to order the bags.

Please visit dsc.smv.org to read our operating policies.