

THE SCHIELE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Field Trip & Group Visit Guide



2026 - 2027

GROUP VISIT GUIDE

From natural science exhibits to planetarium programs and hands-on experiments, your group can enjoy a learning experience that is educational, engaging, and FUN.

Plan Your Visit

Start with the museum experience, then add optional planetarium shows or interactive programs.

MUSEUM EXPERIENCE

Your group visit includes access to museum exhibits, an outdoor Nature Trail, and The Farm. Students can walk with dinosaurs, meet live animals, discover Native American artifacts, and explore the natural world around them.

PLANETARIUM

Boost the educational impact of your field trip with an unforgettable experience under the immersive dome of the planetarium! Add a state-of-the-art planetarium show to your visit.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

A museum educator will guide students through one or more optional interactive educational programs that will bring learning to life! Programs are aligned with your grade-level standards.

SCHIELE TO GO OUTREACH PROGRAMS

If you can't get your group to the museum, the museum can come to you! Schiele educators will travel to your location with an interactive presentation and/or hands-on activities designed to meet your curriculum needs.



PROGRAM FEES



Field trips to The Schiele must be booked in advance. To qualify for group rates, groups must contain a minimum of 15 paying participants and pay as a group. Teachers and staff are free! (One leader per group of 15 paying participants.)

Museum Experience *includes indoor exhibits, The Farm, and the Nature Trail*
\$10 plus tax per participant

Add a Planetarium Show – additional \$6 plus tax per participant

Add an Educational Program – additional \$5 per participant

Planetarium Show ONLY - \$6 plus tax per participant



Small Group Presentation/Lab
(up to 30 participants) - \$250

Large Group Presentation
(up to 100 participants) - \$365



Get your entire school community excited about STEM! Book The Schiele for your family night or school camp in and enjoy a variety of hands-on activities and exclusive programming just for your school families. Email schielemuseum@gmail.com for pricing and details.



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Educational Programs

Meet live animals, mine for gemstones, or visit the lab during your day at The Schiele. Add an incredible interactive program to your field trip package.

Human History

American Indian Cultures (Grades 2-12)

Discover how Indigenous cultures were shaped by North American environments. Examine artifacts from a variety of Native American tribes.

Life in a Catawba Village (Grades 2-12)

Available March – November

Explore the culture of the Catawba People to learn how they survived in the wilderness long ago.

Wildlife

Animal Adventures (All ages)

Explore the diversity of the animal world with the help of our Animal Ambassadors! Learn about the interesting adaptations that help them thrive!

Animal Dissection (Grades 3-12)

Investigate animal biology through this hands-on guided workshop. Dissect an animal specimen to identify the internal structures and organs.

Specimen charge applies.

The Living Farm (Grades K-8)

In this interactive guided tour of The Farm, learn how soil, plants, animals, and humans play a role in creating and maintaining the healthy agricultural system that can feed generations to come. Meet some of the animals that call The Farm home!

Exceptional Animals (Grades 3-12)

Discover how animals survive and thrive in extreme environments by learning about their adaptations in different ecosystems.

Physical & Life Sciences

Criminal Anatomy (Grades 2-6)

Investigate the biology of the human body while solving a mystery during this interactive workshop.

Gemstone Mining (All ages)

Available March – November

Participants use a running water sluice to find, examine and classify minerals they can take home.

Matter & Energy (Grades 2-8)

Experience dynamic demonstrations of the principles of matter, energy, sound, light, and electricity.

Weather (Grades 2-12)

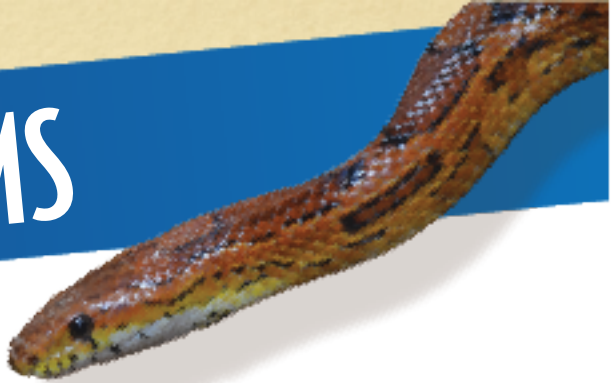
Learn about wild and wonderful weather in a presentation packed with demonstrations that will inspire budding meteorologists.

Dino Tracks to Fossil Facts (Grades 1-8)

Explore the life of a dinosaur, how it lived, and how its bones became fossils.

Built to Survive: A Guided Dinosaur Hall Tour (Grades K-8)

Visit a world 230 million years in the making! Journey back in time and learn what happened when the world changed faster than dinosaurs could adapt.



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Environmental Studies

Ecosystem Explorers (Grades 1-6)

Take a guided trail walk to explore North Carolina's ecosystems and investigate plants, adaptations, and the interconnected relationships between weather, wildlife, and people.

Gemstone Mining (All ages)

Available March – November

Use a running water sluice to find, examine and classify minerals. Students can take home their treasures.

Pumpkin Patch (Grades K-5)

Available September - October

Learn about the wonders of everyone's favorite fall fruit! Following the program, participants can choose a North Carolina-grown pumpkin to take home.

The Living Farm (Grades K-8)

In this interactive guided tour of The Farm, learn how soil, plants, animals, and humans play a role in creating and maintaining the healthy agricultural system that can feed generations to come. Meet some of the animals that call The Farm home!

Early Education

Early Explorers (PreK)

Explore a special topic - turtles, space, dinosaurs, bees or farm - through stories, songs, and crafts designed just for children ages 2-5.



Reserve your group visit!



SCHIELE TO GO OUTREACH

SCHIELE

TO
Go!



Schiele To Go Programs

Schiele educators will bring the collections and the excitement of The Schiele to your location!

Small Group Labs

Single-class programs for up to 30 students with guided, hands-on explorations.

Animal Dissection (Grades 3-12)

Investigate animal biology through this hands-on guided workshop. Dissect an animal specimen to identify the internal structures and organs. *Specimen charge applies.*

Criminal Anatomy (Grades 2-6)

Investigate the biology of the human body while solving a mystery during this interactive workshop.

Dino Tracks to Fossil Facts (Grades 1-8)

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Gemstone Mining (All ages)

Available March – November

Use a running water sluice to find, examine and classify minerals. Students can take home their treasures.

Early Explorers (PreK)

Explore a special topic—turtles, space, dinosaurs, bees, or farm—through stories, songs, and crafts designed just for children ages 2-5.



Large Group Presentations

Assembly-style programs with a maximum attendance of 100.

Animal Adventures (All ages)

Meet some of our Animal Ambassadors and discover how animals eat, grow, and survive. Explore the interesting adaptations that help them thrive!

People of the Piedmont Past (Grades K-5)

Explore how people lived long ago. Students will learn about both the Catawba Indian culture and 18th Century European settlers.

Matter & Energy (Grades 2-8)

Experience dynamic demonstrations of the principles of matter, energy, sound, light, and electricity.

Pumpkin Patch (Grades K-5)

Available September - October

Learn about the wonders of everyone's favorite fall fruit! Following the program, participants can choose a North Carolina-grown pumpkin to take home.

Weather (Grades 2-12)

What happens when air, water, and sun interact? Learn about wild and wonderful weather in a presentation packed with demonstrations that will inspire budding meteorologists.

Reserve your group visit!



THE JAMES H. LYNN PLANETARIUM

Planetarium Programs

Take a trip through the cosmos or under the sea without leaving your seat!

Choose from a variety of planetarium presentations that meet your educational needs, then sit back and enjoy the show.

Programs for All Ages

Expedition Reef (all ages)

Dive underneath the ocean waves to explore precious coral reefs. Discover the impact of climate change and how positive actions can help restore the reefs.

Holidays Around the World (all ages)

December only

Explore the astronomy of seasons and the celestial connection to winter celebrations. Then, get into the festive spirit as we tour the globe in search of holiday traditions around the world!



Programs for Younger Students

One World, One Sky (Grades PreK – 1)

Explore the night sky with Big Bird and friends in a perfect introduction to outer space for the youngest astronomers!

Magic Tree House: Space Mission (Grades 1 – 5)

Thanks to the Magic Tree House, travel with Jack and Annie on a wondrous journey of adventure and learning when they discover a note that asks them to answer questions about space.

Earth, Moon, & Sun (Grades 2 – 4)

Explore the relationship between Earth, Moon, and Sun with the help of an animated character from Native American stories, Coyote.

Did An Asteroid Really Kill the Dinosaurs?

(Grades 2 – 5)

How do we know an asteroid hit Earth during the time of the dinosaurs? Travel far into space and deep underground to uncover the mysteries of Earth's most fiercely famous animals and the space rock that brought the end of an age.

Imagine the Moon (Grades 2 – 6)

Explore how the Moon has inspired creativity, learning, and exploration ever since humans have looked to the sky.

Grossology (Grades 5 – 8)

Join Noreen Neuron and other animated characters to explore the inner workings of the human body.

THE JAMES H. LYNN PLANETARIUM

Programs for Older Students and Adults

Journey to the Unknown (Grades 5 and Up)

The solar system has fascinated curious minds for millennia. Scientists now turn their attention outside of our solar system to real worlds that seem like science fiction!

Mars: The Ultimate Voyage (Grades 5 and Up)

On a two-year journey to Mars astronauts will face extraordinary challenges. What will it take to get astronauts to Mars and back—safely?

Forward to the Moon (Grades 5 and Up)

NASA's 21st-century Artemis program is the next step in our mission to explore the universe and land on the surface of the Moon. Discover the technology and people who will take us Forward to the Moon.

Dynamic Earth (Grades 5 and Up)

Explore Earth's climate engine from the Sun to the atmosphere, oceans, and biosphere. See how delicate and interconnected Earth's systems are compared to our sister planet, Venus.

Supervolcanoes (Grades 5 and Up)

Discover how massive volcanoes form, affect climate and atmosphere, and shape the face of Earth.

Birth of Planet Earth (Grades 6 and Up)

Earth's survival amid the chaos of our early solar system – when the young sun raged and worlds formed and died – comes to life in this journey through our planet's dangerous beginnings.

Faster Than Light (Grades 6 and Up)

How long will it take to travel to distant worlds? What rocket designs might one day conquer the voids of space? Take virtual rides aboard spacecraft and technology of the future.

Atlas of a Changing Earth (Grades 6 and Up)

See amazing images of Earth produced by satellites and supercomputers that show melting coastal glaciers and rising seas that could threaten coastlines the world over.

Solar Superstorms (Grades 9 and Up)

Journey inside the Sun to uncover the powerful forces behind solar flares, coronal mass ejections, and other explosive events while discovering how space weather can impact Earth.

Spanish-Language Programs

Estos programas están disponibles en español.

Kitz El Gato (grados 1 – 5)

El Viaje Definitivo (3 grados en adelante)

De la Tierra Al Universo (3 grados en adelante)

Enrado Cosmico (6 grados en adelante)



Reserve your group visit!



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is there a place for us to eat lunch at The Schiele?

Bring your lunch! We have designated lunch tables that will be available for your group as part of your schedule of events. Lunchtime is included in your Museum Experience group admission ticket.

Once we arrive, how does check in work?

The Schiele offers convenient curbside check in. Schiele staff will meet you in front of the museum to provide all of the information your group will need for your day of adventure.

What about bus parking?

Buses can drop off your students and chaperones at the main entrance, then park in our convenient bus parking lot. Drivers are welcome to return to the museum until departure time.

We will have chaperones arriving separately. How do they pay and park?

Chaperones should be included in your total count and paid for as part of your group. (You can collect their admission fees directly from them.) Chaperones not included in your total count must pay regular admission fees at the door. Parking is available in The Schiele's main parking lot and the nearby overflow parking lot. We love chaperones, but school staff must also plan to accompany every student group during your visit.

When is payment due?

Group payment is due no later than the day of your visit. One payment must cover everyone in your group, including chaperones.

What happens if we need to cancel?

If you need to cancel, please let us know at least 48 hours in advance. Our educators work hard to prepare for your visit, sometimes purchasing items that cannot be re-used. The Schiele is a non-profit organization. Your prompt attention to scheduling changes is appreciated.

When does The Schiele need our final attendance count?

Your final attendee and chaperone counts must be submitted at least 7 business days before your visit.



How do I reserve a field trip or outreach program?

Schedule your visit at schielemuseum.org



TRIP TIPS



Five Ways to Maximize Your Group Experience

1 Set clear expectations for your class before your visit.

Your visit to The Schiele will be unforgettable. Make sure it's unforgettable in a positive way! Remind your students that they are visiting a museum with specimens that are one-of-a-kind. Ask them to treat exhibits with respect, keep their feet on the floor, and be mindful of other visitors. Students should remain with their adult chaperones at all times.

2 Stick to the schedule.

You will receive a schedule of your planned events via email and when you arrive. Watch your time closely and familiarize yourself with program locations to avoid shortening or even missing your planned presentations.

3 Maximize learning during exhibit time .

Encourage chaperones to ask students about the displays inside and outside of the museum.

"What do you think the goats eat?"

"How did that dinosaur protect himself?"

"What is your favorite gemstone in this case?"

Students are often so excited to be at The Schiele that they run through exhibits without actually seeing anything. Help them slow down and explore.

4 Revisit and review.

Shortly after your visit, take time in the classroom to follow up on what your class learned at the museum. Connect what students saw and experienced with your curriculum goals by reviewing the concepts they learned.

5 Have fun!

Our staff will do the heavy lifting so that you and your students can enjoy a special day out together.

