

2023-2024

Educator Guide

FIELD TRIPS | LEARNING LABS | WOW! LIVE SCIENCE SHOWS | STEM NIGHTS | PTA FUNDRAISERS
HOMESCHOOL STEAM LAB | TITLE ONE SCHOLARSHIPS | PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT | EDUCATOR OPEN HOUSE



469-896-2188 | WWW.MINDSTRETCHINGFUN.ORG | 8004 DALLAS PKWY, SUITE 100, FRISCO, TX 75034

HOW TO BOOK

STEP 1:



SUBMIT A REQUEST FORM ONLINE

Visit www.mindstretchingfun.org and fill out the request form online including your preferred dates and programs

STEP 2:

CONFIRM YOUR DATE & PAY YOUR DEPOSIT

Work with the registrar to finalize your date and then pay a deposit within two weeks to secure your programs

STEP 3:

TRANSPORTATION & CHAPERONES

FIELD TRIPS ONLY

Be sure to secure buses, vans or other transportation well in advance and plan out your chaperones to meet the required 1:10 adult to student ratio

STEP 4:

EXPECTATIONS & FINAL PAYMENT

Prepare your students for content and behavior expectations during programs/field trips and check in at the front desk to pay your remaining balance

PROGRAM OFFERINGS

Not sure which type of program to book?
Check out the descriptions below!

Multiple
Booking
Discounts
Available on
Labs & Shows!

LEARNING LABS

DESCRIPTION: Classroom style programs featuring hands-on activities, experiments, and/or crafts

SIZE: 10-30 Students per lab

LENGTH: 45 Minutes (Minimum 15 minutes turnover between classes)

LOCATION: Both on-site or at your location

PRICE: \$225 Outreach, \$12/Student on Field Trip (Museum Admission Included)

WOW! LIVE SCIENCE SHOWS

DESCRIPTION: Auditorium style programs featuring 1-2 presenters, student volunteers, and exciting experiments/demonstrations

SIZE: Up to 250 Students

LENGTH: 30-45 Minutes (Minimum 15 minute turnover between shows)

LOCATION: Both on-site or at your location

PRICE: \$325 Outreach, \$10/Student on Field Trip (Museum Admission Included)

FIELD TRIP ONLY

DESCRIPTION: A self-guided museum visit where students and chaperones can freely explore exhibits and daily activities, No timed programming included

SIZE: 10 student minimum, 1 adult required per 10 students

LENGTH: At least 1-2 hours of exploration recommended

LOCATION: ON-SITE ONLY

PRICING: \$7/Student or Adult (1 FREE adult included per 10 students)

NEED A SPECIFIC TOPIC?

Use the icons below to help find the perfect program!



PROPERTIES
OF MATTER



EARTH &
WEATHER



SCIENTIFIC
PROCESS



MAKING &
ENGINEERING



ORGANISMS &
ENVIRONMENT
(PLANTS)



FORCE, MOTION
& ENERGY



SUN, MOON
& SPACE



ROBOTICS
& CODING



NUMBERS,
SHAPES & MONEY



ORG & ENVIRO
(ANIMALS)

LEARNING LABS

All programs below are 45 minute, hands-on classrooms labs. For a full list of each program's TEKS and Next Generation Science Standards, please visit our website.

Look for these symbols to find programs for your grade!

PK

K-2

3-5

Advanced CSI

3-5



Help us find our missing snake! Collaborate with your fellow detectives as you analyze evidence, conduct an investigation, and learn about forensic science careers.

CSI, Jr.

PK

K-2



Someone got into our garden, and we need your help to solve the mystery! Work as a team to examine scientific clues and use deductive reasoning to find the animal culprit.

Code by Color

3-5



Learn basic coding logic and programming while exploring Ozobots! Discover how robots can use sensors and intake information to follow lines and do cool moves.

Dirt on Soil

3-5



Get down to the nitty gritty on what makes up soil, from sediments to water and nutrients for plants, while trying hands-on experiments just like a geoscientist!

Discovering Dinos

PK

K-2



Future paleontologists will explore real fossils and dinosaur names, use math to see if they can outrun a dinosaur, and create an imprint fossil to take home.

Dissection Connection

K-2

3-5



Learn more about plants and animals by looking INSIDE! Choose a dissection lab based on your class age and interest:

GRADES K-2: Gummy worms, flowers, or owl pellets

GRADES 3-5: Earthworm, cow eyeball, or sea star





TOPIC ICONS



EARTH & WEATHER



MAKING & ENGINEERING



SUN, MOON & SPACE



NUMBERS, SHAPES & MONEY



PROPERTIES OF MATTER



SCIENTIFIC PROCESS



ROBOTICS & CODING



FORCE, MOTION & ENERGY



ORG. & ENVIRO. (ANIMALS)



ORGANISMS & ENVIRONMENT (PLANTS)

GF

GLUTEN FREE
SUPPLIES AVAILABLE!
PLEASE LET US KNOW
WHEN MAKING YOUR
RESERVATION

GF

Energy and Me

K-2

3-5



Discover the five different forms of energy through hands-on exploration as well as consider how energy changes and where we can find it.

GF

Find the Solution

3-5



Be a chemist for a day as you explore the difference between mixtures and solutions, physical vs. chemical changes, and use pH to create color changing "magic"!

It's a Bug's Life

PK

K-2

3-5



Explore the wonderful world of bugs as you get hands-on experience trying experiments with live insect friends and learn more about the scientific method.

Magic of Math

3-5



Become a magician and practice with your friends while discovering calculus, topology, algebra, and probability can create mind-blowing tricks to try at home.

Math-gineers

K-2

3-5



Try your hand at engineering on a budget! Use money to pay for building materials to complete a fun challenge that teaches basic engineering and design principles.

Our Solar System

3-5



Take a journey through space as you learn where planets are in our solar system and discover unique traits of the Earth, Moon, and Sun relationship.

LEARNING LABS CONTINUED



Pinball Wizards



Use the design process to build a functioning pinball machine prototype as you play with the physics and engineering involved in creating games.

Plant-tastic!



Observe real plants like a botanist as you explore the life cycle of a seed, discover the parts of a plant, and even learn about the plants we eat!

Predator vs Prey



Observe skulls to learn about animal adaptations in predators and prey, and then dissect an owl pellet to discover one predator's digestive process.

Reptile Roundup



Meet our Sci-Tech Animal Ambassadors! Learn about their physical and behavioral adaptations as well as habitats and ecosystems in which they live and thrive.

Robot Adventure



Learn the basics of coding logic and programming using simple, young-student friendly robots called Cubetto® to journey across a magical land.

Rock Stars



Be a geologist-in-training as you learn how to sort rocks by traits such as shape, color, weight, and texture. Then, explore how rocks are used in the world around us!

Slime Time



Explore properties of matter like a chemist as you learn about lab safety and mixtures while creating a take-home experiment you'll love to squish and squeeze!



TOPIC ICONS



EARTH & WEATHER



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NUMBERS, SHAPES & MONEY



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ORG. & ENVIRO. (ANIMALS)



ORGANISMS & ENVIRONMENT (PLANTS)

The Four Seasons

PK

K-2



Why does weather change? Explore the difference between weather and seasons as well as how humans and animals adapt and change to different times of year.

Up, Up and Away

K-2



Blast off to the skies as we learn about clouds, stars, and the Moon. Create hands-on tools to observe objects in the sky, find patterns, and illustrate your findings.

Under the Sea

K-2



Explore where we find water around the world, the differences between fresh and saltwater, and learn about how we can protect underwater animals!

Water, Water Everywhere

3-5



Discover where we find water above and below the Earth's surface, explore the properties of fresh and saltwater, then become a droplet in the water cycle!

Whatever the Weather

3-5



Become an amateur meteorologist as you learn how to observe, record, and predict weather data such as temperature, wind, and precipitation.

Wonderful World of WED

3-5



Get hands-on with landforms! See how they are created while exploring weathering, erosion, and deposition from water, wind, ice, and rapid surface changes.

WOW! LIVE SCIENCE SHOWS

Wow! Live Science Shows focus on broad TEKS that span several grade levels. While Wow! Live Science Shows may be booked for any elementary grade, suggested grade levels are listed below. For a full list of each program's TEKS and Next Generation Science Standards, please visit our website.



Blast Off!



Ever wondered how rockets work? Explore the four major parts of a rocket, Newton's Laws of Motion, and finish with a BANG that will be a BLAST!

Cooking Up Combustion



Discover the ingredients you need to create combustion and how changing the ratios of your recipe can affect things like the size and color of fire!

Energy and Me



Learn about six different forms of energy through mind-blowing experiments, and see how energy changes in exciting ways.

Exploding Bubbles



Chemistry has never been more fun! Learn about water and soap molecules, chemical reactions, and states of matter using everyone's favorite: BUBBLES!

Invisible Forces



See how much fun you can have with forces as we explore concepts of magnetism, inertia, sound, and end with an air pressure experiment that will blow you away!



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ORG. & ENVIRO. (ANIMALS)



ORGANISMS & ENVIRONMENT (PLANTS)

Magic of Math

K-2

3-5



Enjoy a magic show where YOU can learn to be the magician! You'll see how calculus, topology, algebra, and probability can create mind-blowing tricks to try at home.

Reptile Roundup

PK

K-2

3-5



Meet our Sci-Tech Animal Ambassadors! Learn about their physical and behavioral adaptations as well as habitats and ecosystems in which they live and thrive.

Space Explorers

3-5



Discover what it takes to become an astronaut, how to train for space, and even get a "taste" of what life is like on the International Space Station.

Super Cold Science

K-2

3-5



Explore states of matter while using a super cold substance: liquid nitrogen! See how heating or cooling solids, liquids, and gases can create awesome changes.

OPEN TO ALL PREK-12
EDUCATORS IN PUBLIC,
PRIVATE, OR CHARTER
SCHOOLS, HOMESCHOOL,
OR INFORMAL STEAM
EDUCATION

EDUCATOR PROGRAMS



Fall Educator Open House



STOP BY THE EDUCATOR OPEN HOUSE TUE. SEPT. 26 FROM 4-7 PM TO LEARN WHAT SCI-TECH CAN OFFER YOU AND YOUR STUDENTS! YOU'LL ALSO BE ABLE TO MEET OTHER STEAM NONPROFITS AND BUSINESSES FROM ACROSS NORTH TEXAS, TRY HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES, TAKE HOME LESSON PLANS, ENTER FOR DOOR PRIZES, NETWORK WITH OTHER EDUCATORS, ENJOY SMALL BITES, AND MORE.

Teacher Professional Development

SCI-TECH IS NOW A TEA APPROVED CPE PROVIDER! JOIN US THIS YEAR FOR PD SESSIONS FOCUSED ON STEAM CONCEPTS, INTEGRATING TECHNOLOGY, INQUIRY-BASED LEARNING, AND MORE. ALL SESSIONS WILL BE LOW-FEE OR SLIDING SCALE TO ENSURE THAT PROFESSIONAL LEARNING IS ACCESSIBLE REGARDLESS OF FINANCIAL STATUS.



TITLE1 FIELD TRIPS

T1 FIELD TRIP SCHOLARSHIPS

THANKS TO THE GENEROUS SPONSORSHIP OF THOMSON REUTERS AND TEXAS HEALTH RESOURCES, SCI-TECH WILL BE OFFERING FIELD TRIP SCHOLARSHIPS FOR TITLE1 SCHOOLS DURING FALL 2023. SCHOOLS WILL BE ABLE TO STRETCH T1 FUNDING FARTHER BY USING SCHOLARSHIPS TO COVER FIELD TRIP ADMISSION, PROGRAMS, AND MORE. FUNDS ARE OFFERED ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS, SO CONTACT US TODAY ABOUT BOOKING YOUR DATE!



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to our
generous
sponsors!

PRESENTING SPONSOR



THOMSON REUTERS®

SUPPORTING SPONSOR



Texas Health
Hospital®
FRISCO



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

PTA Fundraisers

PUT THE "FUN" BACK IN FUNDRAISING! SCHEDULE A DAY, AND WE'LL DONATE 30% OF ADMISSIONS FROM YOUR SCHOOL'S ATTENDEES BACK TO YOUR PTA. FAMILIES CAN ENJOY THE MUSEUM AND RAISE FUNDS AT THE SAME TIME!

Scout Workshops

ENJOY A FUN OUTTING WITH YOUR TROOP/PACK LEARNING TOGETHER! AVAILABLE ON-SITE OR AT YOUR LOCATION, WE OFFER MULTIPLE STEM BADGE WORKSHOPS FOR SCOUTS OF ALL AGES.

Pinewood Derbys

WORKSHOPS IN OUR MAKERSPACE ARE AVAILABLE FOR BUILDING CARS, LEARNING BASIC WOODWORKING SKILLS, AND DISCOVERING THE SCIENCE BEHIND RACING. TRACK RENTALS AND PRIVATE RACE EVENTS ARE AVAILABLE, TOO!



HOMESCHOOL PROGRAMS

Homeschool STEAM Lab

HAVING ACCESS TO HANDS-ON EXPLORATION IS VITAL TO ALL STUDENTS' STEAM LEARNING JOURNEY. SCI-TECH SUPPORTS HOMESCHOOL AND ONLINE LEARNERS WITH OPPORTUNITIES TO TRY HANDS-ON LESSONS OFFERED TO SCHOOLS IN A GUIDED LAB ENVIRONMENT. USING INQUIRY BASED LEARNING TECHNIQUES, STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO EXPLORE STEAM CONCEPTS THROUGH WONDER, CURIOSITY, AND DISCOVERY WHILE BUILDING IMPORTANT TEAMWORK AND CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS.



BOOKING: RESERVATIONS

How can I make a reservation?

Fill out the field trip request form online, and a member of our team will email you to confirm your date and/or program.

How far in advance should I book?

For field trips and programs, we recommend reservations be made at least one month in advance. However, for spring field trips, four to eight weeks in advance will give you the most availability.

Can I reserve my date before paying my deposit?

A deposit is required for reservations.

Can I change my date after paying my deposit?

You may change your date up to two weeks prior to your reservation, dependant on availability.

Can I change my program choice?

You may change the program choice up to two weeks prior to your reservation.

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Can we book a program with under the minimum/over the maximum students?

We can do smaller numbers if the minimum price is met. Groups over the max may book a second program that runs concurrently, if available.

Can we combine grades for a program?

This is not recommended for Learning Labs, but is possible for Wow! Shows.

Do you offer discounts for booking multiple programs?

Yes, we offer discounts for multiple programs on outreaches, STEM Nights, and afterschool programs. Contact us for a detailed listing of prices and discounts.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

PAYMENTS

How do I pay my deposit?

Mail a check/PO or pay by phone by calling 469-896-2188 x2.

When is the full balance due?

Payment is required in full by the date of your reservation. You may wait to pay it when you arrive.

What types of payment do you accept?

We currently accept cash, check, debit card, credit card, and purchase orders.

If I need to cancel my reservation, can my payment be refunded?

Deposits are nonrefundable, but the remaining balance is refundable.

Can I get a refund for any students who do not attend the field trip?

Refunds are not given within two weeks of your reservation date.

Can I add extra students on my booking?

Yes! Simply pay on the day of your trip.

Can our PTA/O or another organization pay for our field trip?

Yes! Simply have your organization pay the deposit and remaining balance on the required timeline.

How can parents/chaperones pay?

Chaperones may pay you in advance for a discount or pay at the front desk upon arrival for regular admission.

Can parents/chaperones use their membership to cover field trip admission?

No, membership benefits do not extend to field trips or school programs.

Do you offer discounts for Title I Schools?

Check out page 10 for more details!

FIELD TRIPS:

LOGISTICS

What time can we arrive?

*Arrival is typically between 9:30-10:30AM.
Early/late arrivals are available by request.*

Where can we park?

Open parking is available in front of the Discovery Center. However, please park buses at the back of the lot.

Where can we eat lunch?

Grassy outdoor space is available on a first-come basis. There are also local parks within a 5 minute drive.

Can our field trip visit the gift shop?

Yes, supervised students may visit the Explore Store at the end of their trip.

What happens if we run late or need to leave early?

Please call us as soon as you are aware of any schedule changes. Programs may be adjusted as staff schedules allow.

Do you have an inclement weather policy?

Sci-Tech follows Frisco ISD's closures. Field trips may reschedule if the museum or your school is closed due to weather.

CHAPERONES

What qualifies as a teacher vs. chaperone?

Teachers are classroom instructors or one-on-one school aids for students with special needs. Chaperones are any parents, adult guests, bus drivers, etc.

Do you have a required number of chaperones for field trips?

We recommend a 4:1 student to chaperone ratio, but allow up to 10:1.

What do chaperones do on a field trip?

Chaperones are required to supervise students in the museum and may also assist as desired in programs.

PROGRAMS:

AT THE MUSEUM

Where are the classrooms?

Classrooms A/B are in the front museum gallery and C/D are in the back gallery.

Where is the Discovery Stage?

The stage is next to the main entrance.

How long before the program should we be seated/in the classroom?

Please arrive 3-5 minute before your scheduled time.

AT YOUR SITE

We don't have an auditorium. Can you still do a Wow! Live Science Show?

Yes! We can use any space that fits our size and technical requirements.

Is there a min/max distance you'll travel?

No, but we do have a small travel fee for distances over 15 miles from Sci-Tech.

Can we do our program after school?

Yes! We offer afterschool programs and STEM Nights.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Are your programs appropriate for children with different abilities?

All programs are adaptable to the physical and mental needs of the students.

Can you teach programs in languages other than English?

While we do not have any programs translated to other languages, you may request an educator who speaks/signs another language as they are available.

CONTACT US:

BOOKING & LOGISTICS

Mary White, Operations Manager
bookit@scitechdiscovery.org, 469-896-2188 x2

Lauren White, Director of Operations
lauren.white@scitechdiscovery.org, 469-896-2188 x5

EDUCATION & PROGRAMS

Kendra Coleman, School Programs Manager
kendra.coleman@scitechdiscovery.org, 469-896-2188 x7

Jacie Hood, Director of Education
jacie.hood@scitechdiscovery.org, 469-896-2188 x9



Sci-Tech is located within the
Frisco Discovery Center,
conveniently off the North Dallas
Tollway by Cotton Gin Road

8004 Dallas Pkwy Ste. 100
Frisco, TX 75034

