2024-2025 Educator Guide

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

Sci-Tech Discovery Center
Mind Stretching Fun!

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

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.

WWW.MINDSTRETCHINGFUN.ORG/FIELD-TRIP-REQUEST-FORM/
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: $250 Outreach, $13/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: $350 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. 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 $8.50/Adult (1 FREE adult included per 10 students)

NEED A SPECIFIC TOPIC?

Use the icons below to help find the perfect program!
LEARNING LABS

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

**Advanced CSI**

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.**

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**

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**

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**

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.

**Energy and Me**

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

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  

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.

Math-gineers  

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  

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.

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.
LEARNING LABS CONTINUED

Plant-tastic!  PK  K-2
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  3-5
Observe skulls to learn about animal adaptations, and play a fun game where YOU become the predators and prey! (Optional Owl Pellet Dissection Add-On Available)

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.

Robot Adventure  K-2
Learn the basics of coding logic and programming using simple, young-student friendly robots called Cubetto® to journey across a magical land.

Slime Time  K-2
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!

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

Up, Up and Away
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
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
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!
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 systems 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**

Science 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!

Magic of Math

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

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

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 Cool Science

Explore states of matter while using a super cold substance: dry ice! See how heating or cooling solids, liquids, and gases can create surprising changes.
FAMILY STEAM NIGHTS

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

PLANNING YOUR SCHOOL’S FAMILY NIGHT AND NEED TO INCLUDE STEM? SCI-TECH HAS YOU COVERED! WE PROVIDE FIVE, HANDS-ON INTERDISCIPLINARY ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO ENGAGE AND INSPIRE LEARNERS OF ALL AGES. WE’LL BRING ALL THE SUPPLIES, PROVIDE VOLUNTEER TRAINING, AND HELP THROUGHOUT THE EVENING. YOU SIMPLY SIT BACK AND ENJOY THE EDUCATIONAL FUN!

WHAT WE PROVIDE

• FIVE HANDS-ON STEAM ACTIVITIES
• TWO EDUCATIONAL FACILITATORS
• ALL ACTIVITY SUPPLIES
• VOLUNTEER TRAINING

WHAT YOU PROVIDE

• TEN VOLUNTEERS
• TEN TABLES WITH CHAIRS
• AN AUDITORIUM OR GYM
• ACCESS TO OUTLETS & A SINK

CONTACT US FOR PRICING, TIMES, GUEST NUMBERS, AND AVAILABILITY

TITLES 1 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 TITLE 1 SCHOOLS DURING FALL 2024. 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!

Check out our new activities!

Thank you to our generous sponsors!

WWW.MINDSTRETCHINGFUN.ORG/T1FTSPONSORSHIP
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

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!

Non-School Programming

ALL OF SCI-TECH’S EDUCATION PROGRAMS INCLUDING STEAM NIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS TO BOOK! WHETHER YOU’RE A NONPROFIT, BUSINESS, CITY/COUNTY DEPARTMENT, OR MORE- WE’VE GOT YOU COVERED!

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.

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.

WWW.MINDSTRETCHINGFUN.ORG/HOMESCHOOL
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 or program after paying my deposit?
You may adjust your reservation up to two weeks prior to your booking, dependant on availability.

Who should make our reservation?
We recommend using a teacher or parent who will be present during your booking.

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, STEAM Nights, and afterschool programs. Contact us for a detailed listing of prices and discounts.

PAYMENTS

How do I pay my deposit?
Pay by online invoice, phone at 469-896-2188 x2, or mail a check/PO.

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 in advance online at www.mindstretchingfun.org or pay at the front desk upon arrival.

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 Title1 Schools?
Check out page 10 for more details!
FIELD TRIPS:

LOGISTICS

What time can we arrive?
Arrival is typically between 9:30-10:30AM. Later arrivals are available by request.

Where can we park?
Chaperones may park in the Discovery Center parking lot. A map will be provided in advance to show bus parking.

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 minimum/maximum number of chaperones for field trips?
We recommend a 4:1 student to chaperone ratio, but allow up to 10:1. On busy days, we may request in advance a cap on chaperone numbers.

What do chaperones do on a field trip?
Chaperones are required to supervise students in the museum.

PROGRAMS:

AT THE MUSEUM

Where are the classrooms?
Classroom A is in the front museum gallery, and B is 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 STEAM Nights.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Are your programs appropriate for children with different abilities?
All programs are adaptable to the physical and mental needs of the students. Please let us know your needs at booking.

Can you teach programs in languages other than English?
While we do not have any programs translated, you may request an educator who speaks/signs another language if they are available.
CONTACT US:

BOOKING & LOGISTICS
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EDUCATION & PROGRAMS
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Sci-Tech is located within the Frisco Discovery Center, conveniently off the North Dallas Tollway and Cotton Gin Road
8004 Dallas Pkwy Ste. 100 Frisco, TX 75034