Group Visit and Educator Guide

This guide contains all our offerings for field trips and group visits, including several new add-on interactive activity options to increase the impact of your visit!

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Our exhibition spaces now feature limited time Traveling Exhibitions!
In addition to the regular museum galleries, these exhibits will be at the Ella in 2023:

January – May: Dinosaur Safari and Fossils of Michigan
May – December: Gear Up: The Science of Bikes

Start planning your trip today!
E-mail us at AllyR@ellasharp.org or call 517-787-2320 ext. 241
Ella Sharp Museum offers 3 levels of field trip/group visit packages that let you fully customize your visit!

For $5 per person, choose ONE option below

For $8 per person, choose TWO options below

For $10 per person, get all THREE options below

See the next page for exciting Add-On Activity options!

Standard Programming Options:

**MUSEUM GALLERIES: SELF-GUIDED**

Students will explore the intersection between art, history, & science through various interactive experiences in the Museum Galleries. Explore the various exhibitions on a self-led visit through both our Regular and Travelling Galleries! Teachers/Group Leaders will receive an informational packet on current exhibits to prepare for the visit.

**HISTORIC BUILDING TOUR**

Travel back in time to the late 1800s with a tour of Ella's Farmhouse and/or the Dibble Schoolhouse! Your students will explore history and learn about Ella's story and general day-to-day living in the Victorian Era from her home, and in the Schoolhouse, students will participate in an 1800s style lesson, with rules they've never had and none of the Chromebooks.

**PLANETARIUM SHOW**

Discover the universe in all its wonder in the Hurst Planetarium. Our shows put you inside the virtual universe as you fly past more than 9,000 stars, planets, galaxies and more on a 30-foot-wide-dome. Shows are led by a live presenter and are followed by Q&A sessions. The Hurst Planetarium features a variety of different shows for school groups to choose from with shows appropriate for Preschool groups all the way up through adult groups.
Group Visit Add-On Activities

Step into the past with this add-on that takes learners through Ella’s Farmhouse and Dibble School. Students will explore the concept of community both now and during the 1800’s through discussion and activities and will examine how communities change over time. Students will be able to interact with objects from this era and discover by comparing today to over 100 years ago.

Art Studio

**Preschool- Kindergarten: 3 Simple Colors**
Students will join us as we read Mouse Paint by Ellen Stoll Walsh. Students will then experiment with primary colors, simple shapes, and lines to create a unique work inspired by Piet Mondrian.

**Grades 1-2: Crazy Cuckoo Clocks**
Students will learn about the artistry of clockmaking by touring our Never Enough Time exhibit and then make their own cuckoo clock art for home.

**Grades 3-5: Wild About Art**
Using the Andrews Wildlife Gallery, students will discover the beauty of nature, explore different types of wildlife art, and make their own bird inspired artwork.

**Grades 6-8: Introduction to Perspectives**
Hanging over the entrance to our Galleries is the three dimensional artwork, Michigan in Motion, where the art appears to move as you walk past. After investigating this optical illusion, students will create one of their own.

**Grades 9-12: Still Life Intensive**
Students will explore the different types of artwork in our galleries and discover why artists across centuries have been drawn to creating still life artwork. Students will create a still life painting based on the painting they saw.

Science Studio

**Preschool- Kindergarten: Amazing Magnets**
Students will explore the movement of objects and the basic properties of magnets through group play and sensory experiences in a magnet filled sand table.

**Grades 1-2: Light Explorers**
Students will discover the properties of light through hands-on exploration. Using what they’ve learned, students will create their own light communication.

**Grades 3-5: Things That Float**
Students will investigate density through different experiments involving the convection process. They will then use this new knowledge in an aluminum boat making challenge!

**Grades 6-8: Spectrometer Scientists**
Students will explore what makes up light using spectrometers. Using a variety of types of light, they will see how different parts of the electromagnetic spectrum make up the light we use everyday!

**Grades 9-12: Rocket Power**
Students will learn about Newton’s Laws with interactive demonstrations. They will put what they’ve learned to the test as they design and build their own straw rockets and send them flying.

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Add to any group visit for $3 per person

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History Experience

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Field Trip Policies & Pricing

We grant free admission to teachers/group leaders, bus driver(s), and chaperones within the ratios below. Additional chaperones pay the student rate.

- Preschool-Kindergarten: 1 chaperone per 5 children
- Grades 1-3: 1 chaperone per 8 children
- Grades 4-8: 1 chaperone per 10 children
- Grades 8 & Up: 1 chaperone per 15 children

A 50% deposit is required at booking. This deposit is non-refundable unless cancellations are made 48 hours in advance or if the cancellation is due to unforeseen circumstances, such as a snow day.

Parking is free and located directly in front of the Museum Entrance off Oakwood St in Ella Sharp Park.

Food and drink are not allowed inside the museum galleries, Hurst Planetarium, or historic buildings. Please leave all lunches, snacks, and water bottles on the bus or in the lunch area.

Indoor lunch spaces are available. They must be reserved at the time of booking to ensure availability. This space seats up to 180 people.

Outdoor lunch spaces include first-come, first-served pavilions located in the Park surrounding the museum. Groups can use these pavilions if they are open, but we cannot guarantee their availability. Groups may also picnic anywhere on the grounds of the Park.

In the surrounding Ella Sharp Park, there are playground areas and large wide open spaces that students could take a recess or have a break time in, if the timing of your day allows. There is no additional fee to utilize the Park’s spaces or equipment.

Teachers, group leaders, and chaperones are responsible for monitoring student behavior at all times when visiting Ella Sharp Museum. If students are disruptive or disrespectful towards staff or other groups, your group may be asked to leave. If student’s behavior causes any damage to museum exhibits or our facility, your group may be asked to leave and invoiced for any damage.

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Financial Assistance

Thanks to a generous donation by the John George Foundation, Ella Sharp Museum is able to offer financial assistance to school age field trip groups. This scholarship is open to all schools with a free and reduced lunch rate of at least 50%. Scholarship recipients will receive these discounted field trip rates:

1 Visit Option: $1/person
2 Visit Options: $2/person
All 3 Visit Options: $3/person
Add-On Activity: +$1/person

(See Field Trip Packages & Pricing page for details)
Traveling Exhibits
Included with a visit to the Museum Galleries

January – May 2023:

**Dinosaur Safari:**
Dive into the prehistoric world of dinosaurs as you become a paleontologist! Come face to face with dinosaurs such as Ankylosaurus and T-Rex. Climb on a Dino or hop into a safari vehicle. Hands-on opportunities in the fossil dig pits allow for exciting new discoveries.

**Fossils of Michigan & Ancient Creatures:**
This exhibit consists of creatures that once lived in the ancient tropical seas that dominated the area 350 million years ago. Creatures such as trilobites, corals, crinoids, gastropods, cephalopods, bryozoans, brachiopods and even primitive placoderm fish. This exhibit showcases commonly found Devonian through Pennsylvanian fossils of the Michigan Basin which includes Northern Indiana, Southern Ontario, Northern Ohio, Eastern Illinois and Wisconsin.

June – December 2023:

**GEAR UP: The Science of Bikes:**
From schoolyards and mountain trails to bustling city streets, we encounter bicycles nearly every day. Since its inception in the late 19th century, the bicycle has affected how people live, work, and play. Its popularity has only grown over time, and it is as relevant today as it was 100 ago. Because the bicycle is so commonplace, it's easy to take for granted how it actually works. The bicycle is an elegant example of basic science principles and material science. Visitors learn how bikes work; what the history/evolution of the bike is; the science and technology behind the machine; and how bikes have impacted our culture. Like the bicycle itself, the exhibition has been designed to appeal to people of all ages and with diverse interests, from STEM to design to history to art.
Never Enough Time

Allen Spiess Jr., a local collector, provided funds to construct and furnish the Never Enough Time gallery space. Al is pleased to have the Ella in the Jackson community so that visitors can enjoy his collections and the collections of others.

The Magnificent Obsession

The Andrews Gallery of Wildlife Art introduces visitors to Jackson residents and wildlife art collectors, Andy and Sandy Andrews, while exploring how art, hunting, and conservation connect. The exhibit features paintings, bronze sculpture, taxidermy mounts, wood carvings, and prints.

Jackson History

Exhibits featuring rotating topics based on items in our collection or relating to travelling exhibits are routinely put together and displayed by our collections team. E-mail or call to see what Jackson History topic will be on exhibit for your visit!

Outdoor Sculptures

Walk the museum grounds and explore our outdoor sculptures on the campus of Ella Sharp Museum.
Historic Building Tours
Explore history first-hand with guided tours and activities from the 1800s

Sharp-Merriman Hillside Farmhouse
In 1912, Ella Merriman-Sharp willed her 19th century home and 530-acre property to the City of Jackson. Ella's wishes were for the city to create a park and museum. This is the original, unmoved home that Ella lived her life in and showcases the legacy and history of her, her family, and her dedication to Jackson and conservation.

Dibble Schoolhouse
This building was built in 1885 for approximately $650 and originally stood at the corner of Kibby and Robinson Roads in Summit Township. It was moved in 1967 to the Museum grounds and is now restored to the 1900 appearance.
Hurst Planetarium Shows

Preschool– Kindergarten: All About Earth
Get a look at the Earth from a new perspective as these young learners see age-appropriate and engaging visuals of our planet that will help them understand how the Earth works and where our weather comes from! (30 mins)

Grades 1–2: The Moon in Detail
Students will learn the exciting history of our closest celestial neighbor in this program that gets students thinking in new ways about something they've seen many times, getting them to ask questions and find answers about the moon's phases and features. (30–40 mins)

Grades 3–5: A Tour Through the Solar System
Explore our Solar System as students fly from Mercury all the way to Neptune, investigating each one and discovering what makes each planet unique. We will also answer the big question, “Why is Pluto not a planet?” (1 hour)

Grades 6–8: Celestial Motion
Students will explore the motions of the night sky and visualize the orbits of our planets in relation to other stars in our galaxy, learning how this creates the constellations we see in the night sky and why they change over time. (1 hour)

Grades 9–12: The Life of a Star
Get up close and personal with these important celestial objects! Learn all about how stars form, the various stages of their life cycles, nuclear fusion, how they eventually die, and what happens to the space around them when these events occur. (1 hour)

Did An Asteroid Really Kill the Dinosaurs?
Did a space rock six miles wide slam into the Earth 66 million years ago and wipe out 75 percent of all living species at that time, including the dinosaurs? Explore the impacts and cosmic collisions across the Solar System in this dynamic new show, including footage from the first iridium layer found in Gubbio, Italy.

DinoSoars!
Students embark on a journey of what happened after the dinosaurs were gone and what animals of today are the closest relatives to the dinosaurs of past.

We have a wide variety of shows available not listed here. Let us know if you are interested in a certain topic and we will find the perfect show for your group!
Grade Level Content Expectations

Our programs can help meet the following GLCEs

### Standard Field Trip Options

#### Gallery Visit:
- **ART.VA.**
  - 1: II.1.2, II.1.3, II.1.5, III.1.1, III.1.2, III.1.3, III.1.5, IV.1.2, V.1.1, V.1.2
  - 2: II.2.5, III.2.2, III.2.3, III.2.5, IV.2.2, V.2.1, V.2.3
  - 3: I.3.1, III.3.1, III.3.2, III.3.3, III.3.5, V.3.1, V.3.4
  - 4: II.4.4, III.4.1, III.4.2
  - 5: II.5.6, III.5.2, III.5.5, IV.5.3
  - 6: 1.6.4, III.6.1-6, IV.6.1, IV.6.2, V.6.1
  - 7: 1.7.3, I.7.4, II.7.5, III.7.1-6, IV.7.1, IV.7.2, V.7.1
  - 8: III.8.1-6, IV.8.1, IV.8.2, V.8.1
- MS: III.HS.1, III.HS.3, III.HS.5, IV.HS.1-3, V.HS.4, V.HS.6-8

#### Historic Building Tour:
- K: H2.0.1, H2.0.3, C1.0.1, C2.0.1
- 1: H2.0.3, H2.0.4, G2.0.1, G5.0.1, G5.0.2, C1.0.1, C2.0.2
- 2: H2.0.3, H2.0.4, H2.0.6, G2.0.2, C3.0.3
- 3: H3.0.1, H3.0.2, G5.0.1, E1.0.3, E3.0.1
- 4: H3.0.1, H3.0.2, H3.0.4, H3.0.7, G5.0.1
- MS: 6-G2.2.5, G4.3.1, 7-H1.2.1, H1.2.6, 8-U6.1.1

#### Planetarium Show:
- K: PS3-1, PS3-2, ESS2-1
- 1: PS4-2, ESSI-1, ESI-1
- 2: PS1-1, ESSI-1, ESS2-1, ESS2-2
- 3: PS2-1, PS2-2, PS2-3
- 4: PS3-3, PS4-2, ESSI-1, ESS2-1, ESS2-2
- 5: PS2-1, ESSI-1, ESI-1
- MS: PS2-1, PS2-2, PS2-3, PS2-4, PS2-5, PS3-1, ESSI-1, ESI-1, ESI-2, ESI-3
- HS: ESSI-1, ESI-1, ESI-2, ESI-3, ESI-4, ESSI-6, ESS2-4

### Add-on Activities

#### Art Studio:
(In addition to Gallery Visit)
- **ART.VA.**
  - Crazy Cuckoo Clocks: I.1.1, I.1.2, II.1.1, III.1.4, I.2.1, I.2.2, II.2.2, V.2.1
  - Wild About Art: 1.3.2, V.3.1, I.4.2, I.4.3, II.4.6, I.5.2
  - Introduction to Perspectives: 1.6.2, 1.6.3, 1.7.2, 1.8.1, I.8.2
  - Still Life Intensive: I.HS.1-5, II.HS.2

#### History Experience:
(In addition to the Historic Building Tour)
- K: G1.0.1, G5.0.1, E1.0.3
- 1: G1.0.3, E1.0.4, E1.0.5
- 2: H2.0.5, G1.0.2, G1.0.3, G4.0.1, G5.0.2
- 3: G1.0.3, G5.0.2, G5.0.2, E1.0.2
- 4: C5.0.1, E1.0.3, E1.0.4
- MS: 6-G1.2.2, G5.11, E3.3.3

#### Science Studio:
- Amazing Magnets: K-PS2-1
- Light Explorers: 1-PS4-2, 1-PS4-3, 1-PS4-4
- Things That Float: 3-PS2-1, 3-5-ETS1-1, 3-5-ETS1-2
- Spectrometer Scientists: MS-PS4-1, MS-PS4-2
- Rocket Power: HS-PS2-1, HS-PS2-4