



2025-2026 Education Guide

At Imagination Station Science and History Museum (ISSHM), we recognize the importance of in-person instruction and hands-on learning in supporting children's education. Our programs are thoughtfully designed to foster student inquiry and critical thinking skills. Led by a trained museum educator, these programs feature age-appropriate activities that encourage active student engagement. All offerings align with the learning standards outlined in North Carolina's Standard Course of Study.

We are pleased to offer our educational programs once again this school year. We look forward to partnering with you to provide engaging experiences that complement the exceptional work happening in your classroom and at home. Please see below for our 2025-2026 program offerings.

Visit Options

Museum Visit (No Program)

Groups are welcome to explore the museum's exhibits on their own. Please notify the ISSHM staff in advance of your arrival to help us ensure a smooth experience. Closed-toed shoes are required for anyone who wishes to use the rock wall.

Admission Prices

Adults, students, & seniors: \$6.00

Children 2 years and under: Free

Museum Visit + Student Program

Combine your museum visit with a hands-on educational program led by our staff. General admission is included in the program price. Programs must be booked at least two weeks in advance, and payment is due one week before your visit. You may choose different programs for different groups to tailor the experience. Discounts may apply for multiple program bookings.

Science & History On Wheels (SHOW)

Can't come to us? Let us bring the museum to you! Our mobile outreach programs travel to schools, libraries, and events. We bring all the materials needed for interactive presentations and workshops. For locations over 75 miles away, a \$350 minimum purchase is required. Most programs are available as SHOW, unless otherwise noted in the program description.

SHOW Program Pricing

Programs range from \$250–\$400 depending on type and group size.

Mileage is an additional fee of \$0.75/mile.

Mileage fees are waived for Wilson County visits.

To Schedule a Program or ask Questions:

Book your program online by visiting our website at: <https://scienceandhistory.org/field-trips/>

You can also contact the museum by calling (252) 291-5113 or email to education@imaginescience.org.

Group Minimum for a Program:

A minimum of ten participants is required to reserve a program. If your group has fewer than ten participants, the full payment will still be due for ten participants. Please note that adults may be included as participants in the total count.

Please be advised that ISSHM is unable to reserve a date for a group without an official booking. Once your program is confirmed and booked, we will send you an invoice and confirmation email. Additionally, ISSHM will provide a reminder call prior to the scheduled program date.

Planning Your Visit

Admissions & Payment

Payment is due at least one week prior to your program date. We accept cash, checks, Visa, and MasterCard. The group leader is responsible for full payment, including any additional guests. Refunds are not available. Discounts (e.g., memberships or military) cannot be applied to group rates.

School purchase orders or billing requests are accepted only with a signed contract received at least 10 business days in advance.

Chaperones

We require one adult chaperone for every 10 students. Required chaperones and bus drivers receive free admission. All other adults must be pre-arranged and paid for when the group registers.

Chaperones must remain with their assigned students at all times, including during programs.

Gift Shop

Students may visit the museum gift shop with an adult. Please limit entry to 10 children and 2 chaperones at a time.

Program Revisions, Cancellations, or No-Shows

Please call at least 3 business days in advance for any program changes or cancellations. A \$50 fee will be applied to late changes. Refunds are not given for overpaid checks. Email and voicemail are not accepted for changes.

Photo & Video Policy

Photos are welcome! Short video clips are allowed but please do not record full programs. Feel free to tag us on social media using #imaginationstationnc.

Pre-K Programming: Fall 2025-Summer 2026

Our preschool programs are designed to introduce children to various topics and ideas through hands-on learning. Programs are 30 – 45 minutes long.

Field trip: \$10/per participant

SHOW: \$250/per program

Animal Encounters (PK) - Students see live animals up close as we talk about what makes them different from humans and each other. Students have the opportunity to touch an animal pelt and one of the animals at the conclusion of the program. Serves up to 30.

Recommended for grades: PreK-1st

**In-House Field Trip ONLY*

Insect World (PK) - Learn what differentiates insects from other animals as we look at how they eat, crawl, fly, and more! Serves up to 30. Recommended for grades: PreK-1st

Digging in the Dirt (PK) - Step back in time to learn about these amazing prehistoric creatures! Students learn about paleontology as they explore what fossils can tell us about dinosaurs. Serves up to 30. Recommended for grades: PreK-1st

Pop, Fizz, Wow! - This exciting program explores the world of chemical reactions. We make elephant toothpaste, fill balloons with various gases to compare, and make carbon dioxide! Serves up to 30. Recommended for grades: PreK-1st

A Pirate Adventure - Explore the golden age of piracy as we explore life on a ship, weaponry, and navigation techniques such as sextants, compasses, and spyglasses. Students learn about historic pirates of North Carolina and create their own pirate flag. Serves up to 30. Recommended for grades: PreK-1st

Science Education Guide: Fall 2025-Summer 2026

Our staff takes great care to consider the North Carolina's Standard Course of Study for science. Programs include age-appropriate activities and encourage student participation. All programs meet learning standards outlined in North Carolina's Standard Course of Study for grades K through 8th.

Biology & Life Science Classes:

We offer programming for students ranging from kindergarten to 8th grade following state standards. These cover a wide range of scientific topics and ideas. Programs range from 45-60 minutes long.

Animal Encounters - Students see live animals up close as we talk about adaptation, classification, food, and habitats. Students have the opportunity to touch an animal pelt and one of the animals at the conclusion of the program. Serves up to 75. Recommended for grades: K-5th

NC Standards met: LS.K.1.1, LS.K.1.2, LS.1.1, LS.2.1, LS.2.2, LS.4.1, ESS.4.3, LS.5.1, LS.5.2, LS.5.3

Field trip: \$10/per participant *In-House Field Trip ONLY*

Insect World – Students investigate the largest group of animals on the planet (75% of known species), insects. Students learn how insects see, fly, eat, and more. One lucky student will get to experience life as a bug. Serves up to 30. Recommended for grades: K-2nd

NC Standards met: LS.K.1.1; LS.K.1.2, LS.1.1, LS.2.1, LS.2.2, LS.4.1, LS.5.2, LS.6.2

Field trip: \$10/per participant

SHOW: \$250/per program

Whooo's Food – Investigate the food chain and food webs throughout ecosystems.

Students will be able to dissect an owl pellet to see whooo's been eaten! In the game of predator and prey, someone has to lose. Serves up to 30. Recommended for grades: 1st-8th

NC Standards met: LS.K.1.1; LS.K.1.2, LS.1.1, ESS.1.3, LS.2.1, LS.2.2, LS.3.2, LS.3.3, LS.4.1, ESS.4.3, LS.5.2; LS.5.3, LS.6.2, LS.8.2

Field trip: \$15/per participant

SHOW: \$280/per program

Plant Life Cycles – Investigate plant life cycles with us as we talk about seed dispersal, dissect plants, and make paper samaras. Students will be able to dissect different types of plants to investigate just how they work! Serves up to 30. Recommended for grades: 1st-6th

NC Standards met: LS.1.1.1, ESS.1.3, LS.2.1, LS.2.2, LS.3.2, LS.3.3, LS.4.1, LS.5.2, LS.6.1, LS.6.2

Field trip: \$12/per participant

SHOW: \$275/per program

Physical Science Classes:

We offer programming for students ranging from kindergarten to 8th grade following state standards. These cover a wide range of scientific topics and ideas. Programs range from 45-60 minutes long.

Space is the Place – Participants will delve into humanity's pursuit of space exploration, beginning with the Apollo program and extending to the Artemis missions and beyond. We will embark on a brief journey through our solar system, focusing on the exploration of the Moon, Mars, and other celestial bodies. Additionally, we will examine how rockets enable us to break free from Earth's orbit, and will have the opportunity to create and test our own. Serves up to 30. Recommended for grades: 1st-7th

NC Standards met: PS.1.1, ESS.1.1, PS.3.2, PS.3.3, PS.5.2, PS.6.1, PS.6.2, PS.7.1, PS.7.2

Field trip: \$12/per participant

SHOW: \$275/per program

Pop, Fizz, BOOM! – In one of our most popular programs, we explore the properties of matter. Volunteers assist with experiments showing physical and chemical changes, including both endothermic and exothermic reactions. In each experiment we test gases produced by observing how they react with fire. Even teachers have a blast! Serves up to 75. Recommended for grades: 2nd-8th

NC Standards met: PS.K.1, PS.2.1, PS.3.1, PS.3.3, PS.5.1, PS.6.1, PS.8.1

Field trip: \$10/per participant

SHOW: \$250/per program

Phenomenal Physics – What makes an object move? It is all a matter of physics! We use Newton's Laws of Physics to explore force, motion, and gravity. Serves up to 75. Recommended for grades: 1st-7th

NC Standards met: PS.K.2, PS.1.1.2, PS.3.2, PS.3.3, PS.4.1, PS 5.1, PS.5.2, PS.7.1, PS.7.2

Field trip: \$10/per participant

SHOW: \$250/per program

Catch the Wave – Light allows us to see our world and perceive visual information. Sound allows us to hear and communicate. How do waves travel? This class uses the study of light and sound to introduce the concept and properties of waves. Serves up to 30. Recommended for grades: 2nd-6th

NC Standards met: PS.2.2, PS.4.2, PS.4.3, PS.6.3

Field trip: \$10/per participant

SHOW: \$250/per program

Earth Science Classes:

We offer programming for students ranging from kindergarten to 8th grade following state standards. These cover a wide range of scientific topics and ideas. Programs range from 45-60 minutes long.

Digging in the Dirt: Archaeology & Paleontology – Students learn the difference between archaeology and paleontology and the importance of context as they examine artifacts and fossils. Students hunt for fossils in matrix from the Miocene epoch and get to keep

their finds! Serves up to 40. Recommended for grades: 1st-8th

NC Standards met: ESS.1.2, LS.4.2, ESS.4.2, LS.5.2, ESS.8.1, LS.8.3

Field trip: \$12/per participant

SHOW: \$275/per program

Earth Rocks - Join us for an exploration of our planet! We will delve into the various layers of the Earth, understand the rock cycle, examine tectonic plates, and take a close look at rock samples. This promises to be an engaging learning opportunity in geology. Serves up to 30. Recommended for grades: 1st-6th

NC Standards met: ESS.1.2, ESS.1.2.2, ESS.3.2, ESS.4.2, LS.4.2, ESS.6.2

Field trip: \$12/per participant

SHOW: \$275/per program

Weather-or-Not - This “hair-raising” experience exposes how weather works. We explore why weather happens and the various types of weather. Students participate in demonstrations that explore rainbows, wind, the water cycle, cloud formations, and lightning. Serves up to 75. Recommended for grades: K-5th

NC Standards met: ESS.K.1, ESS.1.1, PS.2.1, ESS.2.1, ESS.5.1

Field trip: \$12/per participant

SHOW: \$275/per program

Dissections:

Dissection classes allow students to investigate the anatomy of various animals. Dissections begin with an introduction to the specimen species and phylum. An educator then leads students through a dissection. Please book dissections 2 weeks in advance to guarantee specimen availability. 10 – 30 students are required per dissection. Students are required to wear closed-toe shoes and to ensure that their hair is secured away from their faces. 60-90 minutes. Recommended for grades: 3rd-12th

** Prices vary based on specimen costs. Please complete an inquiry form or contact the museum for pricing information.*

Science on a Sphere® Discovery:

Science On a Sphere® (SOS) is a six-foot diameter globe that illustrates earth system science using data from the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). SOS displays global storms, tsunami wave tracks, real-time weather. It can also display planets, moons, and the Sun. If you would like specific focus on topics from the programs listed below, customized programs are available with at least three days' notice. Student worksheets are handed out with each program. Each program is approximately 30 minutes. Minimum 10; Maximum 40. Recommended for grades: 1st-8th

Field trip: \$10/per participant **In-House Field Trips ONLY*

Plate Tectonics - Students discover plate tectonics by viewing plate boundaries and the geologic activity that occurs there. We discuss the theory of continental drift, plate movements, earthquakes, volcanoes, tsunamis, and deep-sea vents.

NC Standards met: ESS.1.2, ESS.3.2, ESS.4.2.3, ESS.6.2.2, ESS.6.3, ESS.8.1

Space and the Solar System - Students take a tour of space without leaving the museum. They learn about the sun, planets, and select moons that make up our solar system. We also explore galaxies, exoplanets, stars and constellations in deep space.

NC Standards met: P.S.1.1, ESS.1.1, ESS.3.1, PS.3.2, ESS.4.1, PS.5.2, ESS.6.1

Weather - NOAA's SOS is an amazing tool for learning about, discussing, and discerning weather and weather patterns. Watch real-time satellite weather, follow air currents, and observe fronts and storms brewing.

NC Standards met: ESS.K.1, ESS.1.1, PS.2.2, ESS.2.1, ESS.4.1, ESS.4.2, ESS.5.1, ESS.7.1, ESS.7.2

STEM Engineering:

Wind Turbines and Green Energy - Students learn the meaning and importance of clean and green energy. We discuss how wind energy is harnessed, its advantages and disadvantages. Working in small groups, students design and build wind turbines. They then measure wind energy outputs using volt meters to choose the best design. Serves up to 30. Recommended for grades: 4th-11th

NC Standards met: PS.4.1, PS.4.2, ESS.4.3, ESS.5.1, PS.7.1, PS.7.2, ESS.8.4

Field trip: \$17/per participant

SHOW: \$300/per program

History Education Guide: Fall 2025-Summer 2026

Our history programs are designed to promote student investigation and critical thinking. Programs include age-appropriate activities and encourage student participation. All programs meet learning standards outlined in North Carolina's Standard Course of Study.

School Age History Programs

Our history programs are designed to teach your student to think like historians as they explore various time periods in North Carolina's past. Programs are differentiated by grade level in accordance with NC Essential Standards. *Please specify if you would like certain standards addressed in our program. Presentations are action-packed and rely on volunteers from the audience. Programs are 45 minutes.

A Pirate's Life for Me – Students explore the Golden Age of Piracy as they learn about life on a ship, weaponry, and navigation use a sextant to navigate the seas from the Carolinas to the Caribbean. Students learn about historic pirates of North Carolina. Serves up to 75.
Recommended for grades: 2nd-6th

NC Standards met: K.H.1, 1.G.1, 2.H.1, 3.G.1, 3.H.1, 6.C&G.1

Field trip: \$10/per participant

SHOW: \$250/per program

Digging in the Dirt - Archaeology & Paleontology – Students learn about the past by exploring just below the surface. Students learn the difference between archaeology and paleontology and the importance of context as they examine artifacts and fossils. Students interpret archaeological sites and search for fossils. Serves up to 30. Recommended for grades: 2nd-8th

NC Standards met: ESS.1.2, LS.4.2, ESS.4.2, LS.5.2, ESS.8.1, LS.8.3

Field trip: \$12/per participant

SHOW: \$275/per program

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