



## STATEN ISLAND CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

School programs at the Staten Island Children's Museum are supported by grants from the Independence Community Foundation, the Richmond County Savings Foundation, the Verizon Foundation, the New York Times Company Foundation and The Starr Foundation. Children visiting as part of a class trip will receive a coupon entitling them to one free admission to the Museum for their entire family thanks to a grant from Northfield Bank.

The Museum is housed in a building owned by the City of New York and its operation is made possible, in part, with public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs with support from the Staten Island delegation to the New York City Council.

Significant support for programs is also provided by the New York State Natural Heritage Trust, the New York State Council on the Arts and Staten Island Representatives in the New York State Senate and New York State Assembly. School programs receive additional support from corporations, foundations and our members.



DEAR TEACHER:

LEARN BY DOING!

PLAN A TRIP TO THE STATEN ISLAND CHILDREN'S MUSEUM AND WATCH AS YOUR STUDENTS LEARN THROUGH EXPERIENCE, GENERATED BY THEIR OWN CURIOSITY AND EXCITEMENT.

THE STATEN ISLAND CHILDREN'S MUSEUM IS UNIQUELY POSITIONED TO TEACH TO ALL THE INTELLIGENCES AND TO ATTACK LEARNING FROM AN EXPERIENTIAL BASE. OUR EXHIBITS ARE THE SPRINGBOARD FOR YOUR CURRICULUM, TAKING STUDENTS NOT FROM THE CLASSROOM, BUT TO AN EXTENSION OF THE CLASSROOM.

OUR PROGRAMS ENCOMPASS SCIENCE, LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES AND THE ARTS. WE HAVE THE STRUCTURE, THE MATERIALS AND THE SUPPORT. YOU PROVIDE THE STUDENTS AND TOGETHER WE WILL MAKE THIS SCHOOL YEAR AN EXCITING ONE.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR VISIT.

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT








# BUGS AND OTHER INSECTS

(ALL GRADES)



Do you hear that buzz? Know where it's coming from? Well it's coming from our fabulous live honeybee habitat. Your class will experience the fascinating phenomenon of a hive in action while also observing, learning about (and maybe even handling) some of the members of our living collection, our: Tarantula, scorpion, millipede, hissing cockroaches, hermit crabs, crickets and butterflies.

As a culture we are repulsed and frightened by what we call bugs. "Ugly, weird and scary" are adjectives often used to describe insects. This exhibit explores why insects look the way they do, how they manage to survive in a world that is gigantic (compared to them), and the positive roles insects play in our ecosystem.

## Did you know:

Arthropods (insects, arachnids, crustaceans and myriapods) are animals

65% of all animals on our planet are arthropods


The brighter a butterfly's color, the hotter the country of origin

Insects have the same 5 senses we do, they just have them in different places

Arthropods are always, at the same time, both predator and prey

All bugs are insects but not all insects are bugs

Addresses the following NYC Performance standards for science: 1a, 2a, 2c, 2d, 3b, 4a, 5a, 6a, 7a



Major improvements to the Bugs and Other Insects exhibit were made possible by a generous contribution and challenge grant from the SI Bank & Trust Foundation. Additional support was provided by Institute of Museum and Library Studies, the Barker Welfare Foundation, the Hyde and Watson Foundation and additional matching funds contributed by Children's Museum trustees, members, staff, visitors and friends.

## In Bugs and Other Insects your class can:

- ✓ Crawl into an ant hill and move larvae from chamber to chamber
- ✓ Feed live butterflies
- ✓ Step into an exoskeleton and pretend to be an arthropod
- ✓ Give crabs a bath
- ✓ Classify and sort insects, arachnids, crustaceans and myriapods
- ✓ Create a musical composition at the Insect Orchestra station
- ✓ Learn how mimicry, camouflage, and adaptation help animals to survive
- ✓ Compare and contrast butterflies and moths
- ✓ Invent a bug of their own
- ✓ Pretend to be a spider and snare their prey
- ✓ Differentiate between complete and incomplete metamorphosis
- ✓ And more!

# GREAT EXPLORATIONS

(ALL GRADES)

Pack your bags, grab your class and come on a SICM expedition. Travel to an ocean, a forest and a frozen tundra where your class will investigate flora and fauna, search for insects in the tree tops, dive to the ocean's depth and unveil a woolly mammoth. In this immersive, interdisciplinary, hands-on exhibit children will learn about extreme environments, engage in mapping skills and "meet" explorers who tell their stories of adventure. Children will learn that they too can be explorers because explorers are real people, just like them. Explorers must plan, prepare, make important decisions, face fears and overcome obstacles in order to stay safe and reach their goals. Lessons for life.

Addresses New York City and State Standards in English Language Arts, Social Studies, Science and Technology, Mathematics, Health and Fitness and the Arts.

## In Great Explorations your class can:

- ✓ Find indigenous animals
- ✓ Be explorers
- ✓ Host a radio show
- ✓ Load a backpack
- ✓ Learn non-verbal communication
- ✓ Build an igloo
- ✓ Cross a river
- ✓ Drive a submersible
- ✓ Work map puzzles
- ✓ Walk on snowshoes
- ✓ Climb an ice wall
- ✓ Drive a dogsled
- ✓ And more!

# PORTIA'S PLAYHOUSE

(ALL GRADES)

Join us in our interactive theater space where your class will learn the ancient origins of 3 kinds of puppetry: Marionette, shadow and hand-in-glove. They then become the puppeteers and put on a skit using props and sound effects to enhance the performance.

Addresses Standards in English Language Arts and Standards 1,2,4 in the Arts.

# BLOCK HARBOR

(PRE-K, K, 1st)

One fish, two fish, red fish, blue fish... Created for our youngest visitors, Block Harbor is a fantasy port of call that beckons children to come and play, explore and imagine. The focus of the visit may be (1) the kinds of ships/boats that exist and the "jobs" they do or (2) the kinds of animals that live in the water or (3) what it must be like to set sail for an unknown destination, like the explorers.



## In Block Harbor your class can:

- ✓ Learn seafaring vocabulary
- ✓ Pretend to be sailors and act out sailor chores
- ✓ Sort geometric shapes and work with puzzles
- ✓ Go into the galley and prepare a meal
- ✓ Cross the bridge and be a lookout
- ✓ Peep through a telescope: "land ho"
- ✓ Ring the bell and navigate at the wheel
- ✓ Create with wooden blocks
- ✓ Pretend with toy people and animals
- ✓ Read a book or have one read by our educator



## LADDER 11 (PRE-K - 2ND)

Located in our Orientation Gallery, Ladder 11 features an authentic 1941 Seagrave fire truck that has been retrofitted for hands-on-experiences.

This exhibit also addresses fire safety and prevention. Will be used as a part of a Museum-Go-Round.

Your class can learn what it is like to fight fires as they:

- ✓ Slide down the pole
- ✓ Don firefighter gear
- ✓ Climb into the cab
- ✓ Manipulate gauges
- ✓ Ring the bell
- ✓ Hook up a hose

"Fire, fire, fire, raging all about, firefighters come and put the fire out."



## SEA OF BOATS

In the S.I. Bank & Trust Plaza  
(PRE-K, K)

This is an outdoor, sea-faring play space that features a tugboat, rowboat, sailboat and motorboat.

Add this to activities that include: radar, Morse Code, fishing, oystering, water table play, a buoy bell, a crow's nest climbing structure, speaking tubes and you have a child-centered, nautical environment.

This exhibit is weather dependant. Therefore, it will be available at the discretion of the Museum, and may be used as an add-on to whatever other exhibit you are going to visit as part of a Museum-Go-Round.

## BIG GAMES



To be scheduled as part of a Museum-Go-Round, your class can learn how to play some classic games that are over-sized for smaller hands. Or, they may already know how to play them but will be intrigued by our unique presentation of Tic-Tac-Toe, Cards, Checkers, Chess, Dominoes, Basketball, Soccer, Bowling, Connect Four and Ball Toss. It's fun, exercise, physical dexterity and some strategic thinking, all rolled into one.

# ART IMMERSION

In the Richmond County Savings Foundation Education Center  
(ALL GRADES)

You can't (or don't) give your class a high end art experience because:

- You feel you don't have sufficient art making expertise?
- You don't have the materials?
- You have the expertise and the materials, but it's too much of a creative mess ?
- Your school has funded arts programs and resident artists, so an individual class art experience is unnecessary?
- The infusion of programming (and money) for arts programs and the emphasis on integrating the arts into the curriculum, validate the fact that the arts are a necessary, integral piece of the learning puzzle. The following outstanding art-based experiences, although process driven, create products to take back to the classroom.

### All Art Immersions :

- ✓ Begin with the history of the process
- ✓ Include instructions for the classroom teacher
- ✓ Can stand alone or will complement most curriculum areas to reinforce content
- ✓ Allow for self-expression and originality

### You may choose:

- Maskmaking
- Bookmaking
- Puppetry
- Print making





## AT YOUR SCHOOL

If you can't come to us, we will come to you. **Museum In A Suitcase** offers the opportunity for a Museum educator to bring a traveling version of **Bugs and Other Insects** to your school. Hands-on activities and all necessary materials make the presentation come alive. Please call for cost and availability.

## UPK PROGRAMS

Our exhibitions are developed to meet learning standards at the earliest levels. Since, by definition, children's museums believe that children learn by doing, our interactive, hands-on exhibits are created to encourage our youngest audiences to explore, imagine, discover and delight in what they find. That is how children learn!

In addition to our regular group visit structure, we would be happy to work with you to design a visit that meets your particular needs. If you are not familiar with the Museum, please ask about a Teacher Familiarization Tour.

# RESIDENCIES

### ALL Residencies :

- ✓ are designed for 6 60-90 minute contact sessions with the class
- ✓ include teacher/museum educator meetings
- ✓ include all necessary materials
- ✓ may be customized to meet your particular needs

### Choose from:

- Bookmaking
- Puppetry
- Maskmaking
- Totem Poles
- Latin & Caribbean Culture
- Constructive Mood Management

### BOOKMAKING

Students Grades 2 to 8 will learn the bookmaking processes used and the impact of the printed word throughout history. Students will actively engage in the creative process through workshops in papermaking, printmaking and assembly of a sewn binding, for a hardcover book.

- Program duration: 6 one hour sessions

The program meets the NYS Learning Standards 1 to 4 for the Arts, Social Studies Standard 2.

### MULTICULTURAL EXPLORATIONS- MASKMAKING

Workshops offered are African Maskmaking and Native American Maskmaking.

#### AFRICAN MASKS

Students Grades 2 to 8 will receive an orientation in maskmaking techniques used by several African cultures. Students will design their own masks using the styles and materials to simulate the African nature craft.

- Program duration: 6 one hour sessions

#### NATIVE AMERICAN MASKS

Students Grades 2 to 8 will be introduced to the culture and lifestyle of the Native Americans. The techniques, materials and use of masks will be learned as the masks are designed and made.

- Program duration: 6 one hour sessions

### SHADOW PUPPETRY

Students Grades 3 to 8 will study the techniques of puppet making and performance. The program incorporates history, world cultures, visual and theatrical arts and literacy skills. Students will make shadow puppets using materials that simulate the graphic beauty of this art form.

- Program duration: 6 one hour sessions

The program meets the NYS Learning Standards 1 to 4 for the Arts, Social Studies Standards 2, 3 and 5, English Language Arts Standards 1, 2 3 and 5.

### LATIN & CARIBBEAN CULTURE – VEJIGANTE MASQUERADER OF PUERTO RICO

The Vejigante is a make-believe character, full of color and energy. It is a classic example of the fusion of African, Spanish and Caribbean influences in Puerto Rico. The Carnival de Ponce (held throughout February in Ponce in the south of Puerto Rico) features a playful Vejigante who tricks and chases the children in the streets. The mask is made of paper mache and has many long colorful horns and a large grinning mouth of long teeth. Students will make a mask of their own design and learn about the heritage that began over 150 years ago and lives today.

- Program duration: 6 one hour sessions

Meet NYS Standards for Social Studies and Standards for the Arts