

Pre Field Trip Activities

- Introduce your students to the Museum before your visit. Discuss what a museum is (the different types), what exhibits the museum has, etc.
- Introduce vocabulary words that will be used by docents during the tour (glossary will be provided).
- Assign students "specialists" roles in one aspect of the topic that they will be studying during the field trip. Students could be grouped in different subject areas related to the field trip topic to research (e.g., history, art, religion, science, environment, etc).
- Explore the Website.
- Discuss with students how to ask good questions and brainstorm a list of open-ended observation questions to gather information during the visit. Record questions on chart paper or in student field trip journals.
- As a class brainstorm a set of standards of conduct for the trip and discuss suggested spending money, lunch plans, appropriate clothing to wear for the trip including gear for rainy weather.
- Clarify the learning objectives of the visit (link the visit to your curriculum).
- Interact with students during the visit as time allows- pose open ended questions, explain aspects of exhibitions and get students talking about what they are seeing and experiencing.