

Educational Programs at the Idaho State Museum

Visit us at the Idaho State Museum. Our programs will excite you and delight you! At the Idaho State Museum, we want you to explore, touch, listen, and play! Our museum has been fully re-designed to be hands-on, multi-disciplinary, multi grade level, and unforgettable.

We have options for you to experience the ultimate field trip.

Exploring Idaho

Bring your students to the Idaho State Museum and immerse yourself in Idaho history. Interactive, interdisciplinary museum guide books are designed for k-12 audiences. Museum Ambassadors will be stationed in the exhibitions to answer questions and assist with hands-on activities. Educators and chaperones are responsible for leading students through the museum. We recommend groups of 10-20 per gallery.

If you would like to visit the M Store, we request groups of 5 students per one chaperone, with a maximum of 15 students visiting the store at one time.

Duration: 1-1.5 hours; we recommend at least an hour to allow your students to explore the new museum. Larger groups may require longer.

Cost: \$3.00 per student. Teachers, bus drivers, and paraprofessionals are free. Adult chaperones in a ratio of 1 adult to 10 students are also free. Additional adults are \$3.00 per adult.

The Idaho Experience

This package includes a one hour version of "**Exploring Idaho**" and a hands-on lesson in the museum classrooms. Students may rotate between gallery time and classroom time.

Duration: 2 hours

Cost: \$5.00 per student. Teachers, bus drivers, and paraprofessionals are free. Adult chaperones in a ratio of 1 adult to 10 students are also free. Additional adults are \$4.00 per adult.

We offer the following classroom programs:

Stratigraphy Sandwich; Designed for grades 2-6 (can be adapted for older students)

In this "sticky" hands-on archaeology program, students will construct a model of artifact deposits in earth's stratigraphy and be able to describe the "law of superposition". The lesson will conclude with the importance of leaving artifacts undisturbed.

Lewis the Science Guy; Designed for grades 2-8

In this outdoor program, students will be introduced to the science of phenology, which is the study of the natural world around them. They will be given a rustic nature journal and twig pencils to sketch and observe species in the Pioneer Village, as Lewis did on the expedition. The students will take their journals and pencils home with them, and use it to become budding naturalists.

If Artifacts Could Talk Designed for grades 4-12

*Students will begin in the classrooms and get a quick lesson on museum artifacts. They will be asked to ponder what stories artifacts would tell if "they could talk". Students will then be given a writing prompt sheet with scaffolding and will explore the galleries, looking for an artifact that speaks to them. They will conclude by sharing their findings back in the classrooms. Extension activities would allow students to write a true narrative or short story from the artifact's perspective, using personification. *Due to the fluid nature of this program, groups of no more than 30 are requested.*

Art of the Camps Designed for grades 3-12

Students will be exposed to the art that incarcerated Japanese Americans created in war time internment camps. They will be given boxes of scrap materials and be asked to create "something beautiful out of nothing." Connections will be made to how students can create beauty where it doesn't naturally exist and make the best of difficult situations.