



FIELD TRIP TEACHER PACKET

For the safety and experience of all guests at the museum our maximum number of students for self guided tours is 90, our maximum for guided tours is 50 and our maximum number for workshops is 50. If your group is smaller than 20, please email us directly at shseducation@ishs.idaho.gov to make arrangements for small group programs. We also offer Homeschool Days, which can be registered for [HERE](#)

Planning Your Visit to the Idaho State Museum

Booking your School Program

- **At least two weeks prior, identify the date you wish to bring your students and contact the Museum by filling out and submitting the Field Trip Request Form** on our website or the end of this packet. *Please note most workshops book up to two months in advance.* Since we take reservations on a first-come-first-serve basis, the earlier you book, the more likely you are to get your requested date.
- **Field Trip programs are available Tuesday-Friday with sessions at 9:30, 11:00, and 12:30.** If you need an alternate date or time, please contact education staff.
- After your program date and time has been requested, an educator will be in touch with you to confirm details, and a confirmation email will be sent to you. **Your field trip is not confirmed until you have received a confirmation email.**
- Once you have received your confirmation, **if you need to make changes to attendance numbers to accommodate more or less students, chaperones, or teachers please confirm these changes with the education staff at the museum.**
- If you have any questions, please contact shseducation@ishs.idaho.gov or our education staff at 208-780-5195

Before Your Visit

- **Please review the museum etiquette rules with your students and the chaperone roles with your parent volunteers.** Both of those can be found at end of this packet. Understanding responsibilities as museum patrons helps ensure that our artifacts, interactives, and media remain available for years to come.
- **Let the education staff know 1 week in advance if there are changes to your number of attendees, or accommodations that need to be made** to help your students learn from and enjoy their museum experience.
- **Students should be divided into groups with chaperones before their visit.** Chaperones should be in charge of groups of 5-10 students (we require 1 chaperone for every 5 students grade K-5 and 1 chaperone for every 10 grades 6-12) and will need to help students move through the museum, follow museum rules, and complete museum activities. **It is essential that students stay in their supervised groups** for their safety, the safety of the artifacts, and the safety of all other museum patrons
- **All reservations must be cancelled 2 weeks in advance.** Field trips cancelled due to inclement weather will be rescheduled at no additional charge.

Arriving for your Visit

- **Arrive on time for your reservation.** As we accommodate multiple schools each day, it is essential for us to honor our scheduled commitments. If you are running behind or need to reschedule, please contact our education team at (208) 334-2120.

- Advise the bus driver(s) to drop off students in front of the museum. **Buses can park in Julia Davis Park during the program.** There is school bus parking behind the bandshell on the far side of the park.
- **Museum educators will greet you** at the front and get you started with your program. If you are doing a self-guided tour, a museum staff member or volunteer will give you an orientation before sending your students in chaperone groups to explore. If you are doing a guided tour or workshop, wait for instructions from a museum educator.
- **Students may only bring a notebook and pencil** through the museum with them. No pens, markers, etc. are allowed to protect our exhibits.
- **No food, drinks, or gum, are allowed in the museum. Also, museum patrons may not carry backpacks** through the museum – if your students need to bring their bags, please make arrangements with staff prior to your visit to store bags in the classroom cubbies.
- **The Boomtown exhibit is intended only for students Pre-K-2nd grade.** If your students do not meet the age requirements, for safety reasons, they are not able to play in Boomtown. The museum offers plenty of other interactive opportunities for students of all ages that will be more suited to their age, size, and ability levels
- **Students are not allowed in the M Store during their field trip.** Due to the size of the store and the supervision necessary, field trips are not a good time for students to peruse the merchandise. Museum field trips will be focused on education and do not have time for the museum store.

Paying for Your Visit

- **Payment is due at the time of your program.** Payment is automatically tax-exempt. The Idaho State Museum accepts cash, check, Visa, and MasterCard.
- **Cost per student is dependent on the program** you have chosen (prices listed below). Teachers, Bus Drivers, Student Teachers, and Paraprofessionals are admitted free.
- **One parent per 5 students is also admitted free. Additional parents will be charged full adult admission.**
- **Teachers are responsible for collecting payment** from students and chaperones prior to visit.
- A limited number of qualifying **Title 1 classrooms can receive programming at no-cost.** An application for funding can be found on our website.

After your Visit

- A program evaluation will be emailed to you. We would be grateful for your response so that we can continue to provide quality school programs.

Program Offerings at the Idaho State Museum

Self Guided Tours

Explore the Idaho State Museum as a class - use activities from your own curriculum or download our Explorer Guides to help your students engage with museum exhibits through a multidisciplinary lens. We recommend 1 hour for Pre-K-5th grades, and 1.5 hours for grades 6-12. Chaperone supervision is required; we recommend 1 chaperone per 5 students for the best experience. Self-guided tours can accommodate a maximum of 90 students per time slot. \$3.00 per student.

Guided Tours

Bring your students to the Idaho State Museum and immerse yourself in Idaho history, exploring the relationship between the land and its people. Museum educators or ambassadors will guide you through the exhibits, answer questions, and assist with hands-on activities. Tours last approximately 40 minutes and groups are welcome to explore the museum in small groups under chaperone supervision afterward. Tours can accommodate a maximum of 50 students. \$4.00 per student.

Workshops

Enhance your museum visit with a hands on workshop! Workshops include a themed tour, hands on activity, and time to explore. Offerings are listed below. Workshops are approximately 45 minutes long and include a 45 minute tour (90m total). Chaperone supervision is required when exploring the museum. Workshop programs can accommodate up to 50 students per time slot. \$5.00 per student.

Workshop Descriptions:

Drawn to Idaho Designed for grades K-8

Essential Question: Why do people make art?

Students will explore the museum on a tour focusing the materials and methods used to make art throughout Idaho's history. From petroglyphs to paintings, students will consider why art is made and what we can learn from studying art through history. In the classroom students will learn about the art made in the Minidoka War Relocation Camp during WWII and, using similar materials to those available in a camp setting, will create their own piece of art and consider their own thought and material process.

Eye Spy Idaho Designed for grades 2-6

Essential Question: How do plants and animals adapt to their environments?

In this outdoor program, students will be introduced to the science of "phenology"- the study of cycles in the natural world. They will be given a nature journal to sketch and observe species in Pioneer Village, as Meriwether Lewis did on the expedition of the Corps of Discovery. The tour will focus on native species of Idaho and how they contribute to our unique eco systems.

Secret Life of Artifacts Designed for grades 6-12

Essential Question: What are the stories artifacts tell?

Explore the collections of artifacts at the Idaho State Museum, and learn about the

unique story each object can tell. Students will spend hands on time exploring artifacts in the Museum's Education Collection and find an artifact within the exhibits that speaks to them. Students will then practice being museum curators and using their creative writing skills to write labels for artifacts, learning the process of investigating history and making objects meaningful through their own creative work.

Righting a Wrong: Japanese Americans and WWII Designed for grades 6-12
(Offered January 25th – April 5th)

Essential Question: Why do rights need to be protected?

Students will work together to identify the similarities and differences between human rights and civil rights. They will explore the stories of Idahoans to better understand the effects of when rights are protected or denied. Finally, using primary sources, students will examine and formulate a timeline which illustrates the context and impacts of Japanese incarceration. This will help students build historical empathy giving them the tools to understand how the past has shaped the present so that they can make changes in the future.

Chaperone Roles

Thank you for volunteering as a chaperone at the Idaho State Museum!

You play a fun and important role in your student's visit.

- ✓ Ensure students are supervised at all times – your group must stay together!
- ✓ Help students interact with exhibits and other people gently and respectfully
- ✓ Only one group from your school should be in each gallery at a time due to space restrictions
- ✓ No food, drink, gum, or backpacks are allowed in the exhibits
- ✓ To keep focus on education, the M Store is off limits during group visits
- ✓ If you or your students have questions or need help ask an educator or a member of our visitor services team

Museum Etiquette for Students

- ✓ Use “museum voices”
- ✓ Walk (don't run!) and stop to enjoy the artifacts
- ✓ Treat the museum with respect, play gently, and don't touch the artifacts.
- ✓ Only a pencil and paper can be taken through the museum. Be careful not to make any marks!
- ✓ Ask for help when you need it or have questions!