



**The Bucks County Children's Museum
Visitation Guide for Educators
PreK-1st Grade**



**The Bucks County Children's Museum
500 Union Square New Hope, Pa 18938
www.buckskids.org**



The Bucks County Children’s Museum’s mission is to provide an environment that connects ALL children to the world around them and inspires learning through PLAY.

Our guiding principles are:

- *Curiosity and imagination are the foundations of learning.*
- *The best way to learn is to do.*
- *Be a resource for children, parents and schools and develop partnerships with like-minded organizations.*

These principals are supported through inter-active, hands-on, child-directed exhibits, field trips, and special programs. Engaging young learners with experiences which cultivate all aspects of growth, is at the heart of all that is available to our visitors.

Look for connections in the following areas:

Cognitive

Children explore language, use critical thinking skills, and create solutions to problems.

Social

Communication between care-givers and children, other children, and museum facilitators is used to collaborate, construct, decide, and challenge.

Emotional

As new skills are acquired, and challenges completed, confidence and expressiveness grows. Joy abounds in the unique, and safe environment.

Physical

Exploration throughout the museum, within exhibits, and during special programming fosters physicality and coordination of movements.



Welcome Educators!

It is well known that the first years of life are essential to future learning. Children's museums are leading a movement that combines specific educational objectives with play, in thoughtfully designed spaces and informal learning environments.

The Bucks County Children's Museum promotes the Pennsylvania Academic Standards. Within this guide, standards are noted which may highlight a particular skill or educational goal, at a specific exhibit. The guide does not list every standard applicable to each exhibit, More information regarding the state standards is available at <http://www.pdesas.org>.

Use this guide to:

- Learn how the exhibits at the museum are aligned to some state learning standards.
- Discover which exhibits may relate to your curriculum or learning goals.
- Decide which exhibits you would like to focus on during your trip to the museum.
- Share details with your administrators about the experiences your students will have on their field trip.
- Provide information for students and chaperones about what they will be learning and experiencing on their field trip to the museum.

Field Trip Options:

½ Day (90 minutes) – Sample Agenda

- Arrival at Museum
- Full group orientation-Assessing prior experiences
- Small group Break-out Lesson (20 minutes per group)
- Free play!
- Dismissal

Full Day – Similar Agenda with the addition of ride on New Hope Ivyland Railroad. Guests are welcome to bring a disposable bagged lunch to eat during the ride.

Examples of Educational Standards in Exhibits



THE TOWN SQUARE

Exhibit Components: Weis Market General Store, Post Office, Doylestown Health Hospital, Ice Cream Stand, Picking Garden & Phonics Puzzle Wall

The Town Square Exhibit Gallery encourages learners to explore basic math and writing concepts, including coin recognition, weight, categorizing, sorting, as well as letter and number recognition while exploring different community jobs.

English Language Development:

ELP5.S.PK-K.2 Name community objects when presented with a visual cue.

ELP.5.S.PK-K.3 Engage in discussion about community activities.

Economics:

6.2.K.A Identify goods and services.

6.2.K.D Identify currency and how it's used.

Math:

CC.2.1.PK-K.A.2 Count to tell the number of objects. Apply one-to-one correspondence to count the number of objects.

English Language Arts:

CC.1.1.PK.D Develop beginning phonics and word skills. Associates some letters with their names and sounds. Identify familiar words and environmental print.

FACTORY WORKS

Exhibit Components: Gear Table, Motion Machine Ball Wall & Raceways

The Factory Works Exhibit Gallery encourages learners to explore basic science and physics concepts by using multiple variables in to achieve a desired outcome.

STEM:

3.2.PK-K.B1 Explore and describe motion of toys and objects. Demonstrate various types of motion. Observe and describe how pushes and pulls change the motion of objects.

Health, Safety, and Physical Education:

10.5.PK/1.B1 Coordinate eye and hand movements to perform a task/an advanced task.

English Language Development:

ELP.4.L.1-3.2 Explore movement of objects based on oral statements by pointing to pictures of objects.

THE BIG DIG

Exhibit Components: Artifact Dig

The Big Dig Exhibit Gallery encourages learners to explore and discover local history through a tactile experience.

STEM:

3.1.PK-K.A1 Recognize the difference between living and non-living things. Identify the similarities and differences of living and non-living things.

3.1.PK-1.A3 Recognize that plants and animals grow and change. Notice changes in matter.

Mathematics:

CC.2.4.PREK-K.A.4 Classify objects and count the number of objects in each category.



AIRWAYS

Exhibit Components: Airways Tubes, Air Table, Shadow Room & PECO Kid-Powered Generator

The Airways Exhibit Gallery offer a hands-on opportunity for learners to discover the power of wind, air pressure, light, and energy through movement.

Approaches to learning through play:

AL.4.PK-K.C1 Attempt, employ, and use problem-solving strategies to achieve a positive outcome.

AL.4.PK-1.A1 Relate knowledge from one experience to a similar experience in a new setting.

AL.2.PK-1.C1 Attempt to accomplish/accomplish challenging tasks by employing familiar and new strategies as needed.

STEM:

3.2.PK-1.B1 Explore and describe motion of toys and objects. Demonstrate various types of motion. Observe and describe how pushes and pulls change the motion of objects.

3.3.1.B1 Explain why shadow fall in different places at different times of the day.

Environment and Ecology:

4.3.PK.A Identify how the environment provides for the needs of the people in their daily lives.

4.3.1.A Identify some renewable resources used in the community.

4.5.1.A Identify resources humans use from the environment.

Health, Safety, and Physical Education:

10.5.PK-1.A1 Use hands, fingers and wrists to manipulate objects. Use dexterity and strength to manipulate objects.



THE HOSPITAL

The Doylestown Health Hospital Exhibit allows children to explore working to help others and using various tools of the trade. It demystifies the hospital and ambulance experience.

Arts and Humanities:

- 6.5.1.B Identify different jobs and the purpose of each
- 9.1.D.PK-1.E1 Use imagination and creativity to express self through dramatic play.

Health, Safety, and Physical Education:

- 10.3.PK1.B1 Recognize emergency situations and discuss appropriate responses.

Civics and Government:

- 5.3.PK-1.C Identify community workers through their uniforms and equipment. Identify roles and value of fire fighters, police officers, and emergency workers in the community.

WATERWAYS

The Waterways Experience introduces children to the water cycle, the concept of locks and current, and the ability to experience a virtual thunderstorm.

Environment and Ecology:

- 4.2.K/1.A Identify components of a water cycle. Explain the path water takes as it moves through the water cycle.
- 4.2.PK.A Identify various types of moving water in Pennsylvania.

STEM:

- 3.3.PK.A4 Identify a variety of uses for water.

Geography:

- 3.3.PK.A4 Identify a variety of uses for water.

BUCKS COUNTY COUNTRY

Exhibit components: Recycling Tree House, Stomp Out the Trash, PVC Music Tubes, Giant Lite Bright

Bucks County Country provides opportunities for learners to utilize their fine and gross motor skills while engaging in a variety of open-ended activities.

Health, Safety, and Physical Education

Standard - 10.5.PK.A1	Use hands, fingers and wrists to manipulate objects.
Standard - 10.5.K/1.A1	Use dexterity and strength to manipulate objects.
Standard - 10.5.PK-1.B1	Coordinate eye and hand movements to perform a task.
Standard - AL.1.PK-1.B1	Demonstrate a willingness to participate in new and challenging experiences. Demonstrate a willingness to participate in an increasing variety of diverse experiences.



Additional Online Supplemental Materials Available to Educators:

- **Pre/Post Museum Activity Worksheets**
- **Autism Support Guide “Enhancing Exploration for Everyone”**
- **Museum Virtual Tour**