

## School Field Trip Frequently Asked Questions



### Why should I bring my class to the Marine Science Center?

The Marine Science Center offers field trip options that will provide your class with an exciting educational adventure. They include observing and learning about our sea turtles and seabirds in rehabilitation, exploring the exhibit gallery and visiting with the reptiles at the Marine Science Center. Our outdoor estuary explorations and beach activities are unique and fun ways to educate about the fragile ecosystems in Volusia County.

### What is the field trip fee at the Marine Science Center?

A Guided Tour is \$4.00 per student you can add an Eco Walk for an extra \$1.00. Owl pellet and Squid Dissections are \$6.00 per student. Estuary Exploration including seine netting is \$10.00 per student. If time allows you can choose to do two programs per field trip. Teachers are free \$0.00. Parent/chaperones are \$5.00 regardless of the program selected.

### How do I make payment?

Payment made upon arrival at the Marine Science Center. Cash, Credit Cards and Checks are acceptable methods of payment. Please make checks payable to the County of Volusia Marine Science Center. All programs are tax exempt.

### When are school field trips offered?

School field trips are offered during the school year, Tuesday through Friday. Field trips may start as early as 9:30 am. Start and finish times can be modified, itineraries will be arranged with the teachers. During summer, winter and spring break holidays we offer a self-guided scavenger hunt for visiting groups \$2.00 per person.

### How do I book a field trip to the Marine Science Center?

Email the education department at, [mstedu@volusia.org](mailto:mstedu@volusia.org) with the following information:

1. Your school name and the lead teachers name, including a contact phone number.
2. Three potential dates you would like to come for a field trip.
3. Your time of arrival and time of departure.
4. Are you coming in a bus or in cars?
5. Grade of students.
6. Approximately how many students.
7. How many classes?
8. If you are a homeschool group, please give us the approximate number of students you have in each age group.
9. Does your group have any special accommodations we need to know about to make the visit more successful?
10. Would your group like to have gift shop time?

How many students can the Marine Science Center accommodate for field trips?

Guided tour, eco walk and estuary exploration programs are up to 60 students. Owl pellet and squid dissection programs are up to 30 students.

How should I prepare my students for a day at the Marine Science Center?

If your group is doing an estuary exploration program, all participants must wear closed toed water shoes, be prepared to get wet and so a change of clothes and shoes is recommended. Please bring refillable water bottles, hats and sunscreen.

Where is the Marine Science Center Located?

The Marine Science Center is located at 100 Lighthouse Dr. Ponce Inlet. FL. 32127.

Where can we park and/or unload the students?

Please refer to the parking map and once you book your field trip date the itinerary will instruct your group where to park.

What do we do about lunch?

The Marine Science Center does not provide lunches. Individuals attending programs must bring their lunch. Weather permitting, programs at the Marine Science Center, lunch can be eaten in the Kay and Ayres Davies Lighthouse Park, 4931 S Peninsula Dr. (located between the Marine Science Center and the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse). Estuary exploration programs at Lighthouse Point Park, lunch can be eaten at the main pavilion. The side deck at the MSC is available if there is inclement weather.

Is there a gift shop at the Marine Science Center?

There is a wonderful gift shop at the Marine Science Center that features unique marine-themed gifts and educational materials at affordable prices. Proceeds help pay for the operation of the facility and care for the animals. Please make sure to let the Education Coordinator know that you would like gift shop time and make sure the children have their money with them when they are dropped off.

What happens if it rains?

Programs will be modified if inclement weather occurs and be replaced with programs inside the Marine Science Center.