

# SCIENCE Children's Museum & Exploration Dome FACTORY



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Dear Educator:

We are excited to have you visit the Science Factory on your upcoming field trip! This packet includes your **confirmation**, a **guide to successful field trips**, and a **sample letter to parent chaperones**. We have also included an **evaluation form**, which we strongly encourage you to fill out after your visit to the museum. Your feedback will help us to improve as a community and educational resource.

Our featured exhibit from February to May 2012 is ***Attack of the Bloodsuckers!***, created by a consortium of New England museums and sponsored locally by Sprague Pest Solutions. Visitors will learn about bloodsucking animals of all types, from mosquitoes to ticks to vampire bats, and the roles they play in their ecosystems. Kids can visit with a giant inflatable tick, observe specialized mouth parts under a microscope, and help a mosquito track down its next meal.

A **teacher guide** to the exhibition is available in the "School Field Trips" section of our website, **[www.sciencefactory.org](http://www.sciencefactory.org)**. It includes the Oregon content standards that are met by your visit to this exhibition, pre- and post-visit classroom activities, and other resources. We hope this guide will enhance your students' overall museum experience by linking it to their classroom learning.

In addition to the basic exhibit hall, you may sign up for one of the **Enrichment Labs** that the Science Factory has prepared to complement the exhibition. These 45-minute classroom programs will enhance your students' experience with interactive lessons led by a Science Factory educator. Students in Grades 1-3 will enjoy ***Bug Lab***, where they will compare and contrast different families of bloodsucking creatures. Kids can learn about their specialized body parts and act out how insects can be carriers of diseases. For students in Grades 4-6, ***Blood Lab*** uses chemical experiments to examine blood and its component parts (plasma, red and white blood cells, and platelets) and to determine why certain animals use blood as a food source. To sign up for these labs, please call **Visitor Services at 541-682-7895**.

We also offer the option of visiting our **Exploration Dome** for a variety of full-dome movies and live presentations. Our featured show for winter/spring 2012 is ***Black Holes: The Other Side of Infinity***. More information on these and other shows can be found under the "Exploration Dome" section of our website, **[sciencefactory.org](http://sciencefactory.org)**.

If your school group includes low-income students, the Science Factory has **scholarships available** to help with the cost of admission. Please speak to our Visitor Services staff at 541-682-7895 for more information.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns. For education-related questions about the exhibit hall or enrichment labs, e-mail [sfeducation@sciencefactory.org](mailto:sfeducation@sciencefactory.org) or call 541-682-7892. For Exploration Dome questions, the planetarium director is available at [sue.peterson@sciencefactory.org](mailto:sue.peterson@sciencefactory.org) or 541-682-7891. We look forward to seeing you and your students at the Science Factory!

Sincerely,

Nick Spicher  
Education Director

Sue Peterson  
Planetarium Director