



Field Trips

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What grade levels can come on a field trip?

A: The Wonderscope exhibits will most appeal to Kindergarten through 3rd grade students. Younger and older students are welcome to attend.

MAKING RESERVATIONS

Q: Do I need a reservation to receive the discounted field trip rate?

A: Yes. In order to receive the discounted field trip rate, a reservation must be made at least two weeks in advance of your school's visit date.

Q: How do I make my field trip reservation?

A: You can make a field trip reservation by calling 913-287-8888 Ext 3, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.–4 p.m., or email our reservation specialist Kelly Mipanyarack at kmipanyarack@wonderscope.org, or go to our website at www.wonderscope.org and complete a field trip registration form located under the "Plan a Visit" tab. Your reservation is NOT complete until a Wonderscope representative emails you a confirmation letter.

Q: Is there a limit to how many people I can bring on a field trip?

A: In order to maintain a positive discovery environment, Wonderscope limits the number of adults and students who reserve spots during the same time span. This will allow both our general admission guests and field trip students to have full access to the exhibits.

Mondays are available for field trips with a minimum of 10 students; maximum of 140 students. (Wonderscope is closed on Mondays to the general public).

Tuesday through Friday field trips are available for a minimum of 8 students; maximum of 50 students.

Q: How many adult chaperones are required?

A: We require that field trips have a ratio of 1 adult per 5 children regardless of age/grade level. Adult chaperones are required to be 18 years and older. Adult chaperones can be parents or school staff members such as teachers.

Q: What is the discounted field trip rate?

A: Students and chaperones receive a discounted admission rate of \$5 per person. Children under 2 years old are free.

Q: Do teachers have to pay admission?

A: All teachers, paraprofessionals and other school staff receive complimentary admission.

Q: Are adults attending the field trip required to pay?

A: The required chaperones (see required ratios above) will receive complimentary admission. All other adults in the group will be charged the discounted rate or may use their Wonderscope family membership card. Adults in the group can be parents, aunts/uncles or grandparents. For example, a school bringing 30 students should also bring 6 adults. If the school brings 4 teachers, there are still 6 adult chaperone spots that will receive free admission. More adults are welcome to attend but they will be charged the field trip admission rate. In order for the additional chaperones to receive the discounted rate, schools should collect this money in advance in order to make one transaction upon arrival. If additional chaperones plan to pay separately from the school transaction, they will be charged the regular admission rate.

Q: Do bus drivers have to pay admission?

A: Bus drivers receive complimentary admission.

Q: May membership benefits be used towards the group admission?

A: In order to create a quick check-in process and to ease other field trip logistics, it is encouraged that all students are included in the field trip group count. However, adults and families with valid memberships are welcome to check in under their membership by presenting their photo ID and membership card. Children are not eligible to utilize family membership benefits without their adult family member present. If a family is coming together as part of a field trip group, then that family can use their membership for admission. They will need to show their card and check in as members.

Q: What day and time can I schedule my field trip?

A: All field trips are scheduled in 90-minute increments. For example, if a school schedules a field trip at 9:30 a.m., their field trip will run from 9:30-11 a.m. Field trips can be scheduled with start times between the following time frames:

Mondays: 9:30 a.m.–Noon

Tuesdays: 9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

Wednesdays: 9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

Thursdays: 9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

Fridays: 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Q: How much is the deposit for a field trip?

A: The deposit cost is equivalent to 50% of the total cost of the field trip. For example, if Jones Elementary is bringing 30 students on a field trip, the total cost for the field trip would be \$150, \$5 per student. The deposit total in this scenario would be \$75. The deposit can be paid with credit card, check, money order or cash.

Q: When is the deposit payment due?

A: A deposit payment for a field trip is expected not later than two weeks after the confirmation email has been sent to the school. If more time is needed to provide the deposit, please call our reservation specialist at 913-287-8888 Ext 3, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.–4 p.m., or email our reservation specialist at kmipanyarack@wonderscope.org.

Q: When is final payment due?

A: Final payment is expected in full upon arrival. The total amount due is based upon your final attendance number on the day of your visit. The deposit payment will be put toward the total cost of the field trip. Please have a final count of students and adults when making your payment. All payments, including additional chaperone payments, should be gathered prior to arriving so that one transaction can be made upon arrival.

Q: How do I make payments?

A: We accept the following forms of payment: credit card, cash, check or money order. We require one payment be made for the entire group (including additional chaperones) upon arrival. The discounted rate does not apply for individual payments made separately from the school payment. If additional chaperones pay separately from the school payment, the regular admission rate will apply.

Q: What if I need to make changes to my reservation?

A: You may make any necessary changes to your reservation by calling 913-287-8888 Ext 3, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. or emailing our Reservation Specialist at mwilson@wonderscope.org. If you need to make changes the day of your visit, you can do so when you check in with our reservation specialist. You will be asked for a final count of adults and students.

Q: Will I receive a confirmation for my field trip reservation?

A: A Wonderscope representative will contact you to confirm your visit. After you make the reservation, you will receive an email confirmation.

Q: What if my group has to cancel due to inclement weather?

A: The group leader should call 913-287-8888 Ext 3, to notify Wonderscope staff of any delays, cancellations or the need to reschedule your field trip visit.

Q: What if I need to cancel my field trip visit?

A: If you cannot make your reserved date, please cancel at least 48 hours in advance. Submit cancellations to our Reservation Specialist via phone at 913-287-8888 Ext 3, or email at kmipanyarack@wonderscope.org. Please include your contact information, organization name and the date of group visit you are canceling. Any field trip that cancels without calling or rescheduling will be billed the full amount.

Q: Is it okay if a parent chaperone brings a sibling of the student attending the field trip?

A: In order to provide the best student experience possible, we suggest that siblings (younger or older) do not attend the field trip with the student and parent chaperone.

PREPARING FOR YOUR VISIT

Q: What resources are available to help me prepare for my field trip?

A: The Wonderscope website features a Field Trip tab created to help you prepare for your field trip.

ON THE DAY OF YOUR VISIT

Q: Where should we park?

A: If your group is traveling by car or van, you are welcome to park in our standard parking lot located on the east side of the building. Buses and oversized vehicles should park on the west side of the building at the field trip entrance. Use Flint Street to access the field trip entrance.

Q: When should we arrive?

A: Schools may schedule arrival times within the field trip time frames Monday through Friday. Please arrive 10-15 minutes prior to your planned arrival time to allow time for check in, payment and orientation.

Q: What happens when we arrive?

A: Upon arrival, a Wonderscope team member will greet you curbside. Please keep students on the bus until the Wonderscope team member has given further directions. Students will be directed inside the building into our field trip intake room. Students and chaperones will listen to a quick orientation to explain the rules and guidelines within the museum and discuss the agenda for the field trip. Students will then get into chaperone groups before starting the field trip experience.

Q: How long should we plan to stay?

A: You will reserve a specific time for your field trip. Field trips last 90 minutes. If you plan to bring lunches, we will add 30 minutes to make sure you have approximately 90 minutes to explore the exhibits.

Q: What are our lunch options?

A: Your school is welcome to schedule a lunch time in our indoor lunch area, and 30 minutes will be added to your total field trip time. Your lunch may be towards the end of your trip or at the very beginning. We do not offer lunch times in the middle of a 90 minute field trip.

Q: What do we do when we are ready to leave?

A: Please allow enough time to gather your belongings and take a bathroom break before your departure. You will be assigned a meeting place for departure during your orientation. A Wonderscope team member will lead you from your meeting to an ideal exit to board your buses. Please have your vehicle pick you up where you were dropped off.

MUSEUM EXHIBITS AND AREAS

Q: Which exhibits should we visit?

A: There is a lot to see and do at Wonderscope, but you should have enough time within the 90 minute time frame to visit all 8 of our exhibit rooms.

- The Small Wonders exhibit is reserved for our youngest visitors, less than 2 years of age.

Q: Will students get wet in the H2O exhibit?

A: Yes! If your group is planning on visiting the H2O exhibit you will get wet. A towel, in addition to a change of clothes and/or shoes, is encouraged. There are restrooms available for changing.