**Belding Exploration Lab**

**Planning Your Visit**

Students may explore the museum with classmates and chaperones. This field trip is great for early childhood groups, preschool and lower elementary grades. Simply play and explore the museum with your group! Visits must be booked in advance.

Discovery Field Trips are self-guided and allow students and chaperones to experience the museum at their own pace. Groups are greeted by a facilitator who will provide a short overview of the museum and other important information.

**General Information:**

* Visits are typically 2 hours.
* Cost is $2 per person.
* School personnel are free of charge.

**Payment:**

* One person is responsible for payment for the group. Payment is for all those that were confirmed prior to your visit and should be made in one transaction. The museum accepts cash or checks. **At this point we do not accept credit cards or purchase orders.**
* Additional attendees who are not included in the final count will pay the attendant on duty.

**Lunch Room:**

* A space for lunch is available, but this must be approved prior to visit.
* Typically, the lunch reservation is for 30 minutes.
* Tables and chairs will be set up and taken down by chaperones.

**Museum Manners:**

* Use inside voices.
* Use walking feet.
* Clean up after you’re done in an area.
* Stay with your group.
* No food or drinks are allowed.
* Do not block doorways or hallway.

**Chaperones:**

* Chaperones must be 16 years or older.
* Students must be assigned to a specific chaperone in advance of your visit.
* Chaperones are expected to remain with their group and to maintain appropriate control.
* Chaperones should involve their children in the exhibits and activities at the museum.
* Chaperones should encourage students to share the exhibits and prompt them to put items away when they are finished.
* Little ears are always listening, so please, no offensive language.

**Restrooms:**

* There is a restroom in the BEL area with a changing station.
* Handicap restrooms are available on the first floor.

**Handicap accessibility:**

A ramp is located at the back of the building. Restrooms on the first floor and in the BEL are accessible.

**Strollers:**

Due to limited space, please park strollers in the hallway outside the BEL door.

**Parking:**

Parking is available in lot at the rear of the building and on the street.

**Smoking:**

Smoking is not allowed in the building.

**Coat Room:**

There is a coatroom located at the rear of the 1st floor. Please be advised that valuables should not be left unattended.

**Trip Cancellation:**

Please call Tammy at 910-977-7055 or email [beldingmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:beldingmuseum@gmail.com) as soon as possible.

**Exhibits include:**

* **Adventure on the Flat:** Discover the flora and fauna of the Flat River ecosystem. Compare tracks and furs of different animals. Go “fishing” in a locally-produced rowboat.
* **Can You Dig It?** Dig for some fossils in the sand pit. Check out the mastodon bones found in a field near here. Play with the many models of the dinosaurs. Compare your foot to that of a dinosaur.
* **Down on the Farm:** Explore farm life and apple production. Use the “apple elevator” to move your apples into the bucket. Sell your produce at the farm market:
* **Back in Time:** Visit the wigwam and cook a meal. Dress up as a pioneer. Build a log cabin with the large Lincoln Logs.
* **In Your Ear:** Whisper into the sound tube so your friend can hear you down the hall. Try your hand on the giant pipe organ or the keyboard. Check out how phones have changed over the years.
* **Production Junction:** You’re the star in your own stage production. Put on a puppet show. Be the deejay at our own station—WBEL.
* **Up, Up & Away:** You’re the pilot for an airplane tour of the area. Try the “hair raising” electrical ball.
* **How Things Work:** Discover how pulleys and gears work. Make a race track for your ball on the magnetic wall. Build your own creation with the magnetic blocks.