

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf
300 Congress Street
Boston, MA 02210
(617) 426-6500

Nonprofit Org.
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Boston, MA
Permit #55720

BOSTON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

GROUP VISITS

1981/82



The Exhibit Center

The museum's exhibits -- many of them "hands-on" -- help kids learn more about themselves and the world around them.

Clustered around City Slice, a three-story cross section of a city street and house, are exhibits about the man-made world. Children make spinning tops on a production line in **Factory**, operate WKID-TV, and clamber down a manhole on the street of **City Slice**. **How Movies Move** is a vivid demonstration of animation, and **Computers** contains 12 terminals which select games based on the operator's age. Kids assume the role of doctors, dentists, and supermarket workers in the **Fort Point Health Center** and the **Congress Street Superette**.

Dollhouses and board games from Parker Brothers are in the **Ruth Harmony Green Hall of Toys**, and **Grandparents' House** has a working kitchen and parlor, an attic with trunks of old clothes, and grandad's cellar.

Cultures come alive in **We're Still Here**, an exhibit about New England's Native Americans; **Meeting Ground**, which demonstrates the ethnic diversity of Boston's communities; and the **Japanese Home**, a real, two-story shop and house from Kyoto.

Kids gain an understanding of handicaps and how they can be helped in **What If You Couldn't**.

Living Things is a natural history corner with small animals, a turtle tank, and rocks, shells, and bones; **Small Science** is a rotating series of exhibits demonstrating basic principles of technology using simple, everyday materials.

The **Giant's Desktop**, where everything's twelve times normal size; **Playspace**; and **Water Play** are all designed especially for young children.



Group Visits

Grades 2 and up

Tuesday 9:30-11:15 & 11:30-1:15
Thursday 9:30-11:15 & 11:30-1:15

Visits are unstructured and children will be free to explore exhibits at their own pace. We recommend a minimum of 1 adult for every 7 children.

Preschool, kindergarten, grade 1

Tuesday 9:30-11:15 & 11:30-1:15
Wednesday 9:30-11:15 & 11:30-1:15

Visits take place in Playspace, the museum's special area for young children, and other exhibits appropriate to the children's ages. We recommend a minimum of 1 adult for every 4 children.

Special education groups

Friday 9:30-10:30 & 10:45-11:45

There are no restrictions of age or severity of handicap. The museum is open to the public on Fridays, but there will be no other school groups, and this will allow your group to explore the museum with a minimum of noise and competition.

Community groups/tour groups

When school is in session:

Tuesday-Thursday 2-5
Friday 2-9
Saturday & Sunday 10-5

Christmas, February & April vacations:

No reservations are accepted because the museum is crowded and we cannot guarantee an entry time. However, groups are still welcome on a first come, first served basis.

Summer vacation:
Saturday-Thursday 10-5
Friday 10-9

Visits are unstructured and children will be free to explore exhibits at their own pace. We suggest you plan to spend 1 to 2 hours at the museum depending on the age of the children. We recommend a minimum of 1 adult for every 7 children.

Previsit orientation for teachers

Fall sessions:

Wednesday, September 23, 4-6pm
Thursday, October 1, 7-9pm

Winter sessions:

Wednesday, January 20, 4-6pm
Thursday, January 28, 7-9pm

Since the format of visits has changed, we strongly encourage all teachers who will be bringing classes to the museum to attend one of the previsit orientation sessions. This will be a valuable opportunity to learn about what to expect when you come to visit with your class.

You will visit both the Exhibit Center, where you will get a chance to see the exhibits, and the Resource Center, which is a rich source of multimedia teaching materials. We'll also provide you with free follow-up materials, curriculum ideas, and refreshments.

Reservations

Schools, preschool, kindergarten, and special education groups

Reservations are by phone only and begin the day after Labor Day at 9am, then weekdays from 9am to 5pm. Please call (617) 426-6500 and ask for Reservations. Since reservations fill very quickly, we encourage you to call as soon as possible. You may find our phone lines are busy or you may be put on hold; please be patient.

For efficient service, please have the following information ready when you call:

1. Date and time you wish to come (please have at least one alternative date in mind).
2. Name of school.
3. Address including zip code, and phone number.
4. Grade.
5. Number of children.
6. Names of teacher(s). (If you're bringing more than one class, we need to know the names of all the teachers.)

Once you've made a reservation, you'll receive a confirmation card two months prior to your visit and a previsit packet one month prior to the field trip. If at any time you need to change or cancel your field trip, please notify us as soon as possible so that we may fill your slot with another group.

Community groups/tour groups

All groups must make advance reservations. Reservations are by phone only and are accepted throughout the year on weekdays from 9am to 5pm. Please call (617) 426-6500 at least two weeks prior to your visit and ask for Reservations.

For efficient service, please have the following information ready when you call:

1. Date and time you wish to come.
2. Name of group and group leader.
3. Address including zip code and phone number.
4. Number of children and adults.

Please be sure to note the date and time of your trip since you will not receive any confirmation. When you arrive at the museum, you will be asked to sign in with the name of your group and the number of visitors.



Admission Rates

All group visits by nonprofit schools and community groups from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts are sponsored by an appropriation from the state legislature funded through the Department of Education.

All other groups pay \$2.75 per child (3-15). Accompanying adults are admitted free.

Museum Services

The **Museums' Shop** contains books, games, crafts, and musical instruments. A special Kids' Shop contains items priced from 5¢ to \$5. The staff member who meets your group in the lobby will explain the shop's procedures.

Recycle contains barrels of industrial byproducts -- wood, foam, fabrics, paper, plastic -- that are on sale at low cost for use in arts, crafts, and science projects.

Other museum services include an extensive collection of books, audiovisual media, artifacts, and learning equipment; a Kit Rental Department that offers kits on 90 topics; and a regular program of workshops and courses for adults who work with children and for families.

More information on these and other museum programs can be obtained at the Resource Center desk on the second floor of the museum.

Food

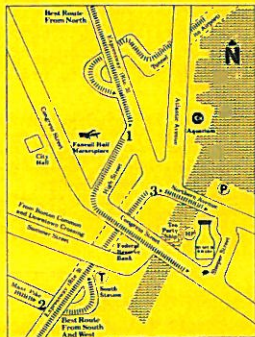
In the Museum Wharf building, McDonald's is open throughout the year, has indoor seating, and is equipped to serve groups.



your group is planning to eat at McDonald's you must make an advance reservation, (617) 482-1746.

From the windows of the giant milk bottle on Museum Wharf's deck, **the Bottle** serves salads, ice cream, frozen yoghurt, fruit juices, and cookies. The Bottle is open from April through the fall.

Map & Directions



Follow the Museum Wharf signs displaying a milk bottle, our landmark.

1. From North: Expressway south (Rte. 3) to High St/Congress St exit, third left on Congress Street.

2. From West: Mass Pike to Expressway north (Rte. 3), Atlantic Ave/Northern Ave exit.

3. From South: Expressway north (Rte. 3), Atlantic Ave/Northern Ave exit.

T MBTA Red Line to South Station.

