

STEM COMES TO LIFE

IN NEWPORT NEWS



DAY 1

Head over to the Virginia Living Museum (VLM) for unique animal experiences! See red wolves, the most endangered mammal in North America, fish with no eyes, and frogs that change colors. Explore living replicas of an Appalachian mountain cove, a cypress swamp, and a limestone cave. There is so much here to see!

The VLM introduces students to more than 250 living species native to Virginia through discovery centers and hands-on, interactive exhibits. Each of the exhibits reinforces and correlates with national science standards, and each is unique and fun! Your students can choose what they would like to do.

- **Enjoy group assembly-style educational programs with live animals to see and touch!** Learn how the animals survive and thrive.
- **Travel the universe in the state-of-the-art, digital planetarium.** Technology allows the museum to project the sky as seen from anywhere on the Earth at any time between 99,999 B.C. and present day, so students will be immersed in both history and astronomy! A projection system also gives students full access to real-time images of various events in space, including live launch events from NASA TV.
- **See how the museum operates with a behind-the-scenes tour.** The VLM provides a sanctuary for orphaned, non-releasable, or injured animals. See how museum staff cares for these animals and supports conservation.
- **Check out seasonal opportunities,** including a Turtle Census in the summer. We can create custom experiences for students to engage and interact with nature.



Ready to explore Newport News?

For more information, please contact:
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Newport News
in Coastal Virginia

newport-news.org

Once you've had a chance to explore, enjoy dinner at the Museum.

DAY 2

Tour The Mariners' Museum and Park and explore the USS Monitor Center! Designated by the U.S. Congress as *"America's National Maritime Museum,"* students will be captivated by stories and priceless artifacts that celebrate the spirit of the open sea. Witness conservation in action as you tour the **Batten Conservation Complex (BCC)** and its laboratories. The BCC houses **210 tons of artifacts** from the USS Monitor, including cannons and the iconic turret. The museum also offers engaging seasonal programs on a variety of topics students will enjoy.

At noon, visit The Mariners' Café for a boxed lunch, then participate in the "What's In My Water?" program. Learn about the history of the Park, as well as **The Mariners' Lake**, a man-made lake that spans part of the 550 acres of The Mariners' Museum and Park. The Mariners' Lake watershed is a case study for using history and science to investigate human interactions and coastal change. Students will practice scientific investigation skills together by collecting water quality data, documenting and reporting land cover around the Lake, and comparing and contrasting water flow over permeable and impermeable land cover.

Later, learn from the world's most innovative scientists at the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility (Jefferson Lab), a U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science laboratory. Scientists worldwide utilize the lab's unique particle accelerator, known as the Continuous Electron Beam Accelerator Facility (CEBAF), to probe the most basic building blocks of matter – helping us better understand these particles, the forces that bind them and, ultimately, our world.

Newport News Tourism can plan a presentation for your group that includes information on Jefferson Lab's work, and will allow students the opportunity to ask questions!

Spend the evening at Busch Gardens Williamsburg for fun, entertainment and dinner! On select dates in the spring, participate in the high-energy **"Launch Into Physics" program.** In this interactive show, students will experience "science of thrills" experts bringing physics to life in the exciting surroundings of the "World's Most Beautiful Theme Park."

DID YOU KNOW?

The world's most advanced nuclear aircraft carriers are built in Newport News.

DAY 3

Explore the Virginia Air & Space Science Center in Hampton, VA, which offers a variety of demonstration-style and hands-on programs that make learning about science, technology, engineering, and math more accessible and fun! Their educational programs are created for grades Pre-K through 12 and are designed to meet the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL), while stimulating students' interests in the fields of aviation, space, science, and technology. With an ample selection of STEM programs to choose from, there is bound to be one that meets your curriculum needs and caters to your students' interests.

