



February 27, 2009

Dear Educator,

Mid-America Science Museum (MASM) strives to stimulate interest in science and to encourage life-long science education through interactive exhibits and programs. The exhibits and experiences at Mid-America Science Museum engage students to learn science in a hands-on manner that makes science come to life. Bringing a group of students on a field trip further reinforces science concepts taught throughout the school year, and can be used across several content areas (English, history, math, etc.). Whether it is a reward trip or as a part of your classroom curriculum, the museum has endless learning opportunities for your students.

For groups of 15 or more people, we offer a discounted group rate of \$6 plus tax per person (\$6.51) to explore the museum exhibits. If you add on the laser light show and the virtual reality simulator ride, the fee is \$10 plus tax per person (\$10.85). Grab bags filled with fun science items from our Museum Store are available for \$3 plus tax per bag (\$3.26).

Chaperones are essential to a successful field trip. Mid-America Science Museum requires a ratio of at least 1 adult for every 10 students. These adults are expected to stay with and interact with the students to which they are assigned and help make their experience a fun and educational one. Please select chaperones that will guide by example and have them assigned to a group of 10 students prior to your arrival. Due to the important role chaperones play during the field trip, all required chaperones are free of charge. Bus drivers are free of charge as well.

Allow approximately 2 hours for the regular museum exhibits and 45 minutes for the laser light show and the virtual reality simulator ride. The museum can accommodate groups of all sizes. A value meal, which consists of a hot dog, chips and drink, can be ordered with your field trip reservation for \$2.50 per meal. Schools are also welcome to pack sack lunches and eat lunch in our picnic area at no extra charge. The museum is open from 10:00-5:00 Tuesday-Sunday.

MASM will host the *Engineer It!* exhibit from January 31-September 7, 2009. *Engineer It!* is an exhibit that explores the fun and creative sides of engineering, allowing visitors of all ages to design boats, buildings, bridges, windmills, airplanes and more, and then test their performance in wind tunnels, earthquake simulators, and water tanks. Please visit our website for more information, correlations to AR science curriculum frameworks, teacher resources, and much more. [www.midamericamuseum.org/engineerit.html](http://www.midamericamuseum.org/engineerit.html) We encourage you to give your students a design or engineering challenge that can be built in class and tested at the exhibit during your field trip. If you plan on bringing projects to be tested during your field trip, please notify me prior to your visit. The *Engineer It!* exhibit is included in admission fees- no additional fees apply.

Please contact me to reserve your field trip as soon as possible. For more information about field trips and exhibits, visit our website [www.midamericamuseum.org](http://www.midamericamuseum.org) and click on the education link.

I think this old adage is true: "Tell me and I forget, show me and I remember, involve me and I understand." Mid-America Science Museum strives to provide resources and opportunities for students to be involved so that they may understand and enjoy science in a new way.

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