

Museum Resource Guide

2023 – 2024



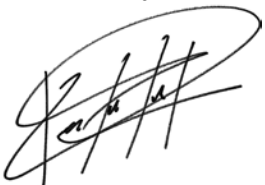
DEAR DISCOVERY FRIENDS AND FAMILY,

Since The Discovery opened its doors in 2011, it has been our mission to inspire and spark curiosity in all our visitors. We continue to meet our region's growth through new and exciting educational programs that are sure to bring out the scientist within. I am pleased and excited to present this handy guide, our attempt to provide an all-inclusive reference to everything The Discovery has to offer. Whether you're a teacher looking for information about booking a school field trip, a parent searching for enriching activities for a young learner, or a member of the community interested in programs specifically for adults, this guide will hopefully provide all the information you need.

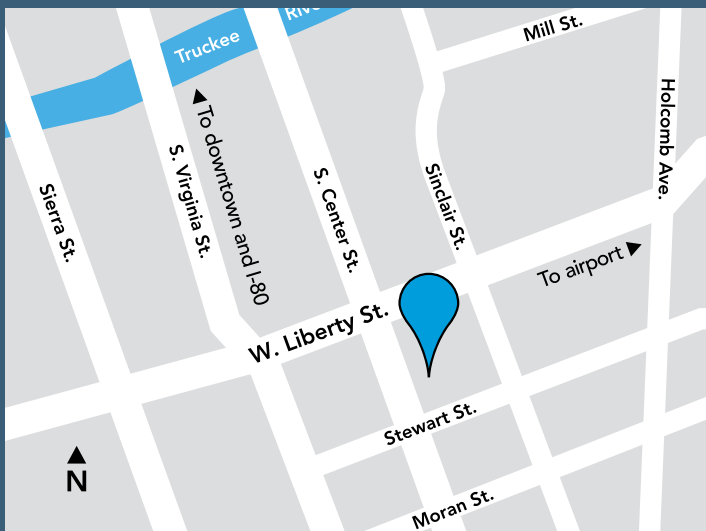


The Discovery is committed to serving our community by providing equitable opportunities for quality education through hands-on learning, self-discovery, and inclusive content. But the work of curating a cultural asset like The Discovery is never done. Thanks to the hard work of the museum's staff there's always more to discover, and the experience here at the museum embodies that. We're constantly responding to the educational and inspirational needs of our community, and I hope you continue to see that in the ever-evolving portfolio of learning opportunities the museum offers.

Gracias y bienvenidos,



Kevin Perez
Senior Director of Education



CONTACT INFORMATION

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775-786-1000 · info@nvdm.org

MUSEUM HOURS

Monday closed
(Open Mondays Memorial Day through Labor Day,
on national holidays, and during WCSD breaks)

Tuesday 10:00am–5:00pm

Wednesday 10:00am–8:00pm

Thursday–Saturday 10:00am–5:00pm

Sunday 12:00–5:00pm

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FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

The Discovery is pleased to offer financial assistance to support the educational needs of families, schools and groups. Financial assistance can provide partial to full support for the cost of the museum’s programs.

Assistance is awarded based on availability and financial need. Funds are made available through the generosity of The Discovery’s donors. An application fee (applied upon approval toward the cost of the program, or refunded if not approved) for financial assistance is required in order for an application to be considered. Applications are accepted until all available funds are distributed.

To apply for financial assistance, please visit nvdm.org or call 775-398-5942.



FIELD TRIPS/GROUP VISITS

Discover STEM-powered inspiration at The Discovery. Immerse your students in lab-based activities and museum exploration designed to foster inquiry and engagement through encounters with science. All Discovery Labs are tied to national education standards.

Our field trip program is flexible and customizable. Your group can choose to focus on museum exploration or add a standards-aligned, hands-on Discovery Lab to your visit. **Transportation for all Washoe County School District (WCSD) schools is included.** The Discovery is also pleased to offer financial assistance to support the educational needs of schools and groups that cannot afford the full cost of their visit to The Discovery.



The Discovery offers a variety of educator resources including pre- and post-trip lessons and Gallery Guides to enhance your field trip, along with orienting materials to help your students and chaperones be successful on their visit. You can find these resources on our website at nvdms.org.

STEP 1: REQUEST YOUR DATE

Submit your reservation at least three weeks in advance. **Please note:** WCSD schools are responsible for scheduling transportation with the District's transportation department (WCSD will bill the museum for transportation costs).

- **WCSD schools with 50% or higher FRL:** \$5 per student (includes bus transportation, no charge for required chaperones, minimum 30 students)
- **All other WCSD schools:** \$9 per student (includes bus transportation, no charge for required chaperones, minimum 30 students)
- **All other schools/groups:** \$8 per student (no charge for required chaperones, additional \$3 per student for Discovery Lab activity, minimum 20 students)

STEP 2: CHECK YOUR E-MAIL

Allow a few business days for your contract to arrive by e-mail. Please return a signed copy to The Discovery to complete the reservation process.

STEP 3: EXTEND THE LEARNING

Use The Discovery's library of resources for educators to extend the learning beyond your museum visit. Help your students prepare for their visit by watching an orientation video.

STEP 4: MAKE PAYMENT

Payment for your field trip or group visit is due upon arrival on the day of your visit. Check your itinerary for details about how to make payment. A \$50 deposit is required for all non-WCSD schools.

STEP 5: ENJOY YOUR VISIT

We hope you enjoy your visit to The Discovery. You will receive a survey at the end of your visit. Please fill it out to let us know how we did. Your feedback helps us continue to improve the field trip experience.

DISCOVERY LABS

In addition to ample time to explore the museum, field trips and group visits can include your selection of a Discovery Lab or Guided Exhibit Exploration from the list below. Click “Make Your Reservation” to choose your activity and begin the adventure!

THEY SHOUTED PUSH

GRADE LEVEL(S)

FORMAT

Pre K-K

Discovery Lab

Description: In this Discovery Lab students learn about pushes and pulls through the construction of a fun pom-pom launcher. They then explore how different strength pushes and pulls affect the way their pom pom moves.

Nevada Academic Content Standards in Science (NGSS): K-PS2-2



SKYSCRAPER CHALLENGE

GRADE LEVEL(S)

FORMAT

K-2nd

Discovery Lab

Description: In this hands-on Discovery Lab, students work to design, create, test and redesign free-standing, weight-bearing towers using KEVA® wooden blocks. Students will experiment with different geometric shapes used in structural designs and determine how design choices affect the height and strength of structures.



Nevada Academic Content Standards in Science (NGSS): 2-PS1-2. K-2-ETS1-2



Skyscraper Challenge is presented in partnership with Sierra Nevada Journeys' Classrooms Unleashed Program. Additional in-class lessons led by SNJ educators are available.

ZIPLINE RESCUE

GRADE LEVEL(S)

FORMAT

K-2nd

Discovery Lab

Description: In this collaborative, hands-on Discovery Lab, students work to design, build, test and redesign a zipline that will move an injured or stranded person safely and quickly out of danger. Students will explore varying environmental constraints that affect the zipline, including the presence of a person, adverse weather, and the need to make multiple trips.



Nevada Academic Content Standards in Science (NGSS): 2-PS2-1. K-2-ETS1-1-3

MEASURE TWICE, CUT ONCE

GRADE LEVEL(S)

FORMAT

3rd–5th

Discovery Lab

Description: In this lab student knowledge of fractions will be enhanced as they practice measurements in the standard system while also using tools and learning about tool safety. Each student will put their skills into practice when they build a key hanger they can take home. **Note:** 54 students maximum.



Nevada Academic Content Standards in Science (NGSS): 3-5-ETS1-1, 3-5-ETS1-2, 3-5-ETS1-3

DISCOVERY LABS (CONTINUED)

EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERS

GRADE LEVEL(S)

FORMAT

3rd–5th

Discovery Lab

Description: In this hands-on lab, students will construct miniature cities using a variety of ordinary materials and then observe how different building materials withstand the forces of a simulated earthquake. Using what they learned, students will then work in groups to attempt to build the strong structure in a competition amongst other teams.

Nevada Academic Content Standards in Science (NGSS): 4-ESS1-1, 4-ESS2-2



TOOTH SLEUTH

GRADE LEVEL(S)

FORMAT

3rd–5th

Discovery Lab

Description: In this Discovery Lab, students will examine a variety of jaw bones and teeth to collect evidence to support a statement about the variation that exists within a species. They will then put their knowledge to the test with a tooth matching game.

Nevada Academic Content Standards in Science (NGSS): 43-LS3-1



WILDFIRE WARRIORS

GRADE LEVEL(S)

FORMAT

6th–8th

Discovery Lab

Description: Designed for inquisitive middle school students, this 45-minute lab includes hands-on activities, group collaboration, and games, that will help students learn about wildfire causes, behaviors, and prevention strategies. Beyond the flames, they'll explore the ecological and societal impacts, learning how human activity intertwines with natural phenomena.

Nevada Academic Content Standards in Science (NGSS): MS-ESS3-3, MS-ESS3-4, MS-LS2-4



SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST

GRADE LEVEL(S)

FORMAT

6th–8th

Discovery Lab

Description: In conjunction with the *Monster Fish* exhibition, we ask the question, “why would a monster fish exist?” In this lab, students will run simulations using mathematical modeling to determine why populations of fish change over time. In addition, this lab includes key components of conservation biology and suggestions for how students can maintain biodiversity.

Nevada Academic Content Standards in Science (NGSS): MS-LS4-4, MS-LS4-6





SCHOOL & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

SPARKING CURIOSITY ACROSS OUR REGION

The Discovery is on the go! Our outreach program brings hands-on learning directly to schools, libraries, community centers, and just about any location in Nevada and northeastern California. Offering classroom programs, assemblies, and a portable planetarium, each experience inspires the audience to investigate our world and universe through the lens of science. To book an outreach event visit nvdm.org/outreach. For additional information please call **775-398-5901**.

CAMP DISCOVERY

STEM-BASED CAMPS FOR STUDENTS IN K-7TH GRADE

When school's out, Camp Discovery is in. The Discovery's seasonal camps are a great way to experience all that the museum has to offer. Camp Discovery's all-day, themed camps are designed for students in kindergarten through 7th grade, and are led by qualified educators in an environment designed specifically for learning, exploration and fun. Camp themes range from bugs to building, and dinosaurs to computer coding. For dates and more information about Camp Discovery, or to register, visit nvdm.org/camps or call **775-398-5942**.



FAMILY SCIENCE NIGHTS AT THE DISCOVERY

STRENGTHEN PARENT AND FAMILY INTEREST IN SCIENCE

Family Science Nights offer a unique opportunity for your school's families and teachers to visit the museum and kindle a lifelong interest in learning. This event for your school or group is designed to foster partnerships between teachers, parents and students, and strengthen parent and family involvement in science exploration and discovery. Your school or group will explore the museum's galleries and exhibits and have the opportunity to take part in a variety of hands-on science activities and demonstrations. For more information about this exciting program, please visit nvdm.org or call **775-398-5942**.



HALF PRICE ADMISSION PROGRAM

EXTENDED HOURS AND REDUCED ADMISSION

Beginning at 4:00pm every Wednesday, The Discovery reduces admission to \$5 for all visitors and remains open until 8:00pm. This makes the museum accessible and affordable to a broader range of families, including those who have work or financial barriers to access during regular business hours. And best of all, The Discovery's Educators keep the science going with repeat performances of exciting, live science demonstrations.

SOCIAL SCIENCE

ADULTS-ONLY, BRAIN BUILDING FUN

Explore the entire museum with a beverage in-hand while you get hands-on with topics ranging from crime scene science, to human attraction, to the process of fermentation. Social Science happens four times each year, typically in January, March, June and September. To find out what topics we'll be covering this year, check out nvdm.org/socialscience.



SCIENCE DISTILLED

CUTTING-EDGE SCIENCE MADE APPROACHABLE

Science Distilled, the lecture series created by the Desert Research Institute (DRI) and The Discovery, makes cutting-edge science approachable through presentations on current and curious topics held at hip locations in a social atmosphere. For upcoming topics, dates and locations, visit sciencedistilled.org.



A NOVA Science Café presented
by **DRI** and **The Discovery**



SMALL WONDER WEDNESDAY

A MORNING JUST FOR EARLY LEARNERS

Small Wonder Wednesday creates the opportunity for our region's youngest learners to experience the joys of a museum visit without the concern of older visitors dominating the experience. Every Wednesday, The Discovery opens at 9:00am – an hour early – just for families with children age 5 and under. Visitors can hear stories, climb the clouds, create art, and enjoy the entire museum for a full hour before it opens to everyone!



CELEBRATE AT THE DISCOVERY

MAKE YOUR NEXT CELEBRATION FUN AND EDUCATIONAL

Whether you're celebrating a birthday or hosting a corporate retreat, The Discovery can make your gathering inspirational and memorable. The Discovery offers a variety of amenities and versatile spaces for your next conference, retreat, corporate meeting, birthday party or special event for groups ranging from 15 all the way to 1,800. To book your next celebration, visit nvdm.org.

ONLINE EDUCATOR RESOURCES

A field trip to The Discovery is only part of the museum experience. In addition to museum exploration and Discovery Lab activities, we also provide a library of resources for you to use in the classroom both before and after your field trip. On our website you'll find standards-aligned pre- and post-trip activities directly tied to Discovery Labs, Gallery Guides to help you direct your students to key points in each of the museum's galleries, and a wealth of other resources to help prepare you and your students for an exciting visit to The Discovery.



MENTAL HEALTH: MIND MATTERS

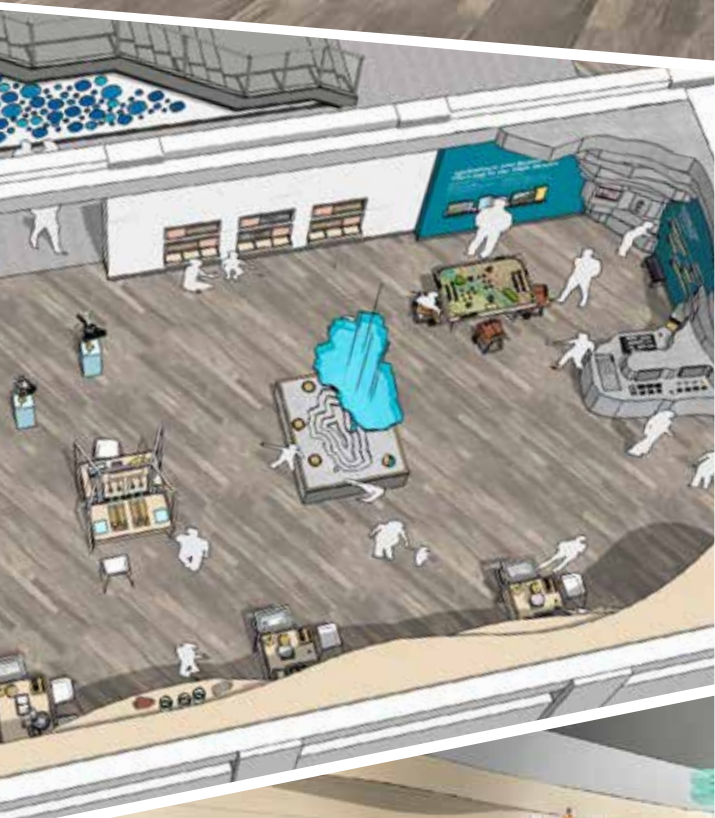
DESTIGMATIZING MENTAL HEALTH

Like physical illness, mental illness is not a 'choice' or a personal flaw but a medical condition that requires care. In 2014, the National Institute of Mental Health reported that there were an estimated 43.6 million adults aged 18 or older in the United States with a mental illness—18.1% of all U.S. adults. Yet misunderstanding of mental illness often leads to lack of treatment and needless suffering. That makes mental health a personal issue, a social issue, and an economic issue.

Mental Health: Mind Matters uses hands-on immersive experiences and multimedia activities to provide a respectful, informative, engaging place where substantive learning, conversations, and social interactions can occur surrounding the topic of mental health.

This exhibition will create a safe space for important conversations about mental illnesses and the misconceptions and stigma surrounding it. Mental illness touches all of our lives in some way, making this exhibition a timely and important resource.

Mental Health: Mind Matters is expected to open in February 2024.



NEVADA EXHIBITION

REIMAGINING OUR STATE'S HISTORY

Rugged, dramatic, diverse — this is how our great state will be portrayed in The Discovery's planned exhibition, *Nevada*. A reimagining of the museum's current *Nevada Stories* exhibition, *Nevada* will reside in a new location within the museum's walls and will help create an understanding of our state's beautiful landscapes, contrasting regions, diverse flora and fauna, and the varied industries and careers they foster.

This 3,000 square-foot exhibition, boasting more than 30 hands-on exhibits, will be a welcoming space for long-time Nevadans, new residents, and those visiting our state. Nevada will encourage museum visitors to become familiar with a variety of topics like the species that share our land, the clarity of Lake Tahoe, predator-prey relationships, land resource management, native and invasive species, and more. The exhibition aims to inspire stewardship of the land, and most importantly, a lasting sense of place.

Fundraising for this new exhibition is under way.

For more information about any of
The Discovery's programs or exhibitions,
e-mail info@nvdm.org or call **775-786-1000**.



490 S. Center Street · Reno, NV 89501 · 775-786-1000 · nvdm.org

The Discovery is a locally founded, independent Nevada 501(c)3 nonprofit organization with tax ID #61-1474845.
Our mission is to inspire by being the place to experience science.