EDUCATOR’S GUIDE

ECHO, Vermont’s innovative science and nature center, welcomes school groups year-round. With our incredible location on the historic Burlington Waterfront, ECHO serves as the perfect destination for your half-day or full-day adventure, no matter what the season.

3 Easy Steps to Booking Your ECHO Adventure

Step 1: Choose between our 3 field trip options.
Step 2: Check out our changing exhibit, daily programs, and theater schedule at echovt.org.
Step 3: Book your trip by completing our online reservation form at echovt.org/schoolfieldtrips.

Group Rates
$7.00 PreK–12th grade student admission
FREE One adult admission for every five youth (including teachers)
$9.00 Each additional adult admission
$3.00 Student and adult Northfield Savings Bank 3D film ticket (additional to admission)

Field Trip Option 1: Self-Guided Group Experience
Self-guided tours give your group access to the more than 100 hands-on exhibits, 70 species of live animals, daily activities, student scavenger hunts, and discussion guides. Groups will receive a personalized welcome by ECHO staff.

Field Trip Option 2: Teacher’s Choice Program (additional $75/program)
Our most popular option. Designed for students in grades K–12, each 50 min, educator-led program builds off the VT State Standards. Offerings include Engineering in Action programs that encourage hands-on problem-solving and other STEM-focused programs. Includes everything listed in the self-guided option.

Field Trip Option 3: 3D Science & Nature Film (additional $3/person)
Add this to your visit and experience stunning 3D educational films. Check out current film offerings at echovt.org.

For more information visit echovt.org

TEACHER’S CHOICE PROGRAMS

50 Minute ECHO Educator-led programs based on the Vermont Common Core and the Next Generation Science Standards.

AVAILABLE SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 – MAY 22, 2020

Wetland Wonders (K – 3)
It’s a sponge, it’s a filter, it’s a nursery... it’s a wetland! Explore the living and nonliving elements of this important habitat as we bring a wetland to life by evoking its unique sights and sounds.

Native American Games (K – 3)
Experience the games played by the indigenous people of the Lake Champlain Basin. Students will get a hands-on lesson on pre-1800’s Native American culture and the important role games played in their lives.

Water and Fire (K – 3)
Explore how water and fire have influenced the development of human communities.

Basin Biodiversity (6 – 12)
Explore the variety and importance of species in the Lake Champlain Basin. Students will discover the local threats to native biodiversity and how they can become stewards of the Lake Champlain Basin.

Engineering in Action:
Zipcarts (K – 6)
Students will use the engineering design process to transport model turtles to safety as they plan, build, and evaluate solutions to ECHO’s zipline challenge.

Rock and Roll Geology (3 – 6)
Explore 20,000 years of geologic history in the Lake Champlain Basin. Students will discover the forces that shaped the land we see today and identify local rock types during a hands-on geology lab.

Native American Artifact Inquiry (3 – 6)
Explore Native American artifacts to illuminate the sophistication of pre-1800s Abenaki life. Students will learn how to interpret historical objects in order to better understand traditional ways of life.

Engineering in Action: Launch, Fling, Fly (K – 6)
Students will learn about the ecology of Vermont butterflies and practice engineering design skills as they plan, build, and problem solve a solution to an engineering challenge.

Engineering in Action: Spring Leapers (K – 6)
Students will learn about annual spring amphibian migrations. They will then use the Engineering Design Process to assist model frogs in crossing a busy road.

FEATURED PROGRAM AVAILABLE FROM MAY 26, 2020 – JUNE 12, 2020

Engineering in Action: Climate Challenge (K – 6)
Climate change is bringing new and unexpected challenges to our communities. Students will explore the probable drivers and potential impacts of climate change. They will then use the Engineering Design Process to prototype solutions to a climate-inspired design challenge.
RETURN OF THE butterflies

SPECIAL EXHIBIT
OPEN SEPTEMBER 28, 2019 – JANUARY 5, 2020

The secret is out! Thomas Edison’s Secret Lab presents an exciting world of science and discovery guided by a virtual version of the greatest inventor of all time! The exhibit invites visitors to join the fun through interactive explorations that promote science, technology, engineering, and math learning.

STEM IN MOTION
Sparking Innovation across Vermont

LET ECHO BRING OUR INTERACTIVE STEM EXHIBITS TO YOU!

Our truck travels with enough STEM fun to fill a gym and anchor your community event.

Our traveling festival features engaging activities for all ages, including a 12 foot tall wind wall, coding robots, giant blue building blocks, a 30 foot Lego race track, and more.

To learn more and schedule your STEM Festival today go to echovt.org.

SPECIAL EXHIBIT
OPEN FEBRUARY 8, 2020 – SEPTEMBER 7, 2020

Experience the beauty and wonder of tropical butterflies as they glide among the plants and float alongside you in ECHO’s Butterfly Pavilion. Learn what you can do to protect these fantastic pollinators and their natural environment. Come be a part of a truly interactive family experience unlike anything you’ve seen.
Engineering Design Process

1. Define
2. Plan
3. Create
4. Test
5. Improve