



Chaperone Guide

Thanks a million for taking the time to come on this field trip. We know you've likely made sacrifices to attend, and we want to make the most of your time. *Please read this short guide carefully, and have it in your pocket during the field trip.*

We see you as a partner in education. The best way you can support student learning is through genuine curiosity, engagement, and enthusiasm. If students see that you're interested, they will be more involved. If possible, please turn your cell phone to airplane mode during the field trip.

Help to support and refocus students. We recognize that different students need different types of support. It's hard for one or two educators to provide that support to all students, and that's where you come in. If a student is withdrawn, see if you can find a gentle way to engage them in the activities. "Whoa, did you see this? What do you think it is? Can you find any more of these around here?" If you notice a student who keeps talking to the person next to them when they should be listening, quietly stand by them.

Be a co-explorer and ask questions to students. During our exploration activities students may be working alone or in small groups. You can go near them and listen in on what they're working on and saying. If they're having trouble getting started, help them out. But instead of telling them what you know, do the opposite. Focus on things you don't know, and try to figure them out *with* students. Ask them questions instead of telling them answers. And then ask them more questions.

Mystery facilitates science learning. Our teaching style may be a bit different than what you've experienced. Our goals are for students to explore nature, notice things, become curious, come up with questions, figure things out, and discuss ideas. We try not to "tell them the answer" when they're exploring. Instead, we help them ask questions to widen their thinking process. Below are some of the questions we use to help students discover on their own. Try out some of these when you're co-exploring with students on the field trip.

Questions to support exploration:	Follow-up questions:
What do you notice? What patterns can you see? What do you wonder about it? What does it remind you of? How does it compare to _____?	How might you explain that? What's your evidence for that? How could you be more certain?

Thanks again for being here and for supporting student learning!