

School Programs

2020–2021



Monte L. Bean
Life Science Museum
Brigham Young University

mlbean.byu.edu (801) 422-5050



Dear Educator,

We are aware of the many changes that have occurred in your classrooms and schools due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We have also experienced changes at the Bean Museum and have used the time while we have been closed to redesign our school programs. We are excited to let you know that these new programs will be available in digital format this fall (see “Webcasts” below). Our new programs include more specimens from our collection for students to see and touch (when it is safe to do so). The new programs line up with the new Utah Core science standards and will **NO LONGER INCLUDE LIVE ANIMALS**. We understand that this change might be unpopular, but we are confident that with more museum resources, our new programs will be engaging and will help solidify the important science concepts and skills you are already teaching in your classroom.

Due to the pandemic, we will have limited hours in the fall when we reopen on September 14th and will not be able to accommodate field trips or school visits for outreaches. We will also close the museum after Thanksgiving for the rest of 2020. We plan to monitor the situation, and hopefully we can allow field trips and visits your schools in January of 2021.

Sincerely,
Katy Knight, Education Director



PROGRAM FORMATS

We offer school programs in 3 formats: webcasts, in-house programs, and outreaches. Educators can choose from 8 different school programs based on grade level and the Utah Core science standards.

WEBCASTS (FREE): Webcasts (via Zoom, Skype, or Google Hangouts) provide an opportunity for students and teachers to interact with a museum educator in real time from the convenience of their classroom. Webcasts featuring the school programs are free, and the **best option for school groups during the pandemic**. Webcasts must be scheduled at least one week in advance and require the proper technology.

IN-HOUSE PROGRAMS (FREE): These private presentations of the school programs are held in the museum and are free. They must be scheduled at least one week in advance. **We will not be offering school programs in this format during the pandemic.**

OUTREACHES: Outreaches, during which we bring one of our programs to your school, must be scheduled at least **two weeks** in advance and cannot be scheduled more than four months in advance. Due to staffing issues, outreaches will not be scheduled during the university’s final exam week. **We will also not do outreaches during the pandemic.** See our website for information about our prices, travel fees, and partnership discounts.



RESERVE YOUR PROGRAM ONLINE: Request a school program for your class on our website. Visit mlbean.byu.edu and fill out the request form. For questions, please call (801) 422-6698 or email beanmuseum@gmail.com.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

To help us improve our education programs, we’re requesting that teachers fill out a feedback form. Each program will typically last between 30 and 45 minutes. In-house and webcast programs start 15 minutes after the hour.

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PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Our school programs are interactive, make effective use of inquiry learning methods, and focus on the Utah Core science standards for students from kindergarten to sixth grade.

Preschool

Animal Discovery:

Students will play a “game” to identify and discover new things about animals. This program is interactive and created specifically for kids under the age of six. While we won’t limit group size, this program works much better for groups of 15 or less.



Kindergarten

Needs of Living Things:

Students will use specimens to play a matching game that compares the needs of living things, including plants, animals, and humans. They will also discuss where these plants and animals live in order to meet their needs. (Standard K.2.1, K.2.2)

First Grade

Family Patterns:

Students will compare and contrast a variety of different animal parents and their offspring. They will also observe patterns in animal behavior and identify relationships between parents and offspring. (Standard 1.2.3, 1.2.4)

Second Grade

Habitat Hunters:

In this program students will have the opportunity to explore various life sustaining factors and decide which habitat a particular organism might best live and survive in based on that organism’s adaptations. (Standard 2.2.1, 2.2.2)



Third Grade

Physical Traits:

Students will identify and analyze how various physical traits can affect the survival of an organism in certain environments. Includes a variety of hands-on specimens that students can use to make observations and enhance their learning. (Standard 3.2.3, 3.2.4)

Fourth Grade

Utah’s Diversity:

This program involves an interactive discussion about three Utah ecosystems: wetlands, forests, and deserts. Students will help analyze specimens and learn why they are found more commonly in

one habitat versus another. (Standard 4.1.1, 4.1.2)

Fifth Grade

Energy Matters:

In this program students will analyze how plants, animals, and decomposers obtain and use matter and energy. Students will also track the flow of energy through a variety of ecosystems using food chains and specimens. (Standard 5.3.1, 5.3.2, and 5.3.3)

All Grades

Biodiversity:

This program is designed for all ages and covers learning standards from each grade K–6. Students will analyze an ecosystem and determine the needs of the organisms living there, the traits that allow them to survive, and the interactions between them.

WEBSITE RESOURCES

(MLBEAN.BYU.EDU)

We have 5 main resources available for teachers on our website. This fall we will be adding more online resources for [teachers](#). Be sure to check them out.

1. School Programs Information – You can find information about each specific school program.

2. Exhibit Videos – We have over 25 exhibit videos (2–6 minutes in length) featuring Matt Meese (from Studio C and JK! Studios) as our version of David Attenborough or the Crocodile Hunter. They are available on our website (mlbean.byu.edu) and on YouTube.

3. Scavenger Hunts – Several scavenger hunts based on our exhibits are available online for teachers to print and distribute before coming to the museum. We will

BIO-BOXES:

Our Bio-boxes can bring the museum’s unique and valuable resources right into your classroom. Each Bio-box includes mounted specimens from the museum’s education collection as well as “biofacts.” Biofacts are biological artifacts, such as animal skins, feathers, eggs, antlers, bones, fruits, seeds, etc. Where possible, the Bio-boxes also include additional resources, such as field guides or topic-related videos. Each Bio-box also contains a teacher’s guide, which provides teachers



an overview of the subject, a description of the Bio-box’s connection to specific core curriculum concepts, and ideas as to how the contents of the Bio-box can be incorporated into lesson plans. The materials in each Bio-box can be used in

also have digital scavenger hunts available in the fall.

4. Audio Tour – Our audio tour can be accessed through our website and contains interesting information about 90 different animals.

5. Identify “Me” (identifyme.byu.edu) – This mobile website can be used in the museum with personal smart phones or with one of the museum’s iPads (available for checkout from the information desk). Students answer a series of questions based on their observations while working through a dichotomous key. Eventually the student is able to identify the name of a specific animal.



a number of ways to support a single lesson or as supplemental material for an entire unit. The teacher’s guide can also be downloaded from our website. Our Adaptations and Ecosystems Bio-box is designed for secondary-age students. We are excited to announce that this year we will also have an Elementary Education Bio-box.

Bio-box Checkout Procedures:

You can check out a Bio-box by filling out the request form on our website. Bio-boxes may be kept for up to two weeks. Use of a Bio-box is free, but you will be required to enter a valid credit card at the time of your request. For each day the box is late, a \$5.00 late fee is assessed; if any items from the box have been damaged or are missing, your credit card will be charged. Delivery service is now available for schools in Utah County for a \$35 fee. Simply indicate that you would like this service when filling out the online request form. There will be an additional \$20 distance fee for every 20 miles (beyond the first 20 miles). The credit card you provided at the time of your registration will be charged after the delivery has occurred.