



Pre and Post Visit Activity: Field Journal

Making a Mayborn Museum Field Journal is an excellent pre and post visit activity which will motivate your students to get the most out of their experience. Use this tool to give personal meaning to everything they see, hear, and do at the Mayborn!

Pre-Visit

We suggest that you give your students a brief overview of our building and our unique collections prior to your visit. The *Group Visit Guide*, found on the website, includes a brief description of each exhibit and a map of the museum. Have students make their own Field Journals or use one already in place in the classroom. A journal may be as simple as a spiral notebook or paper stapled into a booklet.

During the visit, you may want to give a prompt to guide learning and exploration. Some prompts may include:

- My Favorite Exhibit at the Mayborn
- A Big Surprise!
- I Wonder About....
- What do I See, Hear, and Feel?
- Now I Know....
- I Want to Learn More About....

Post-Visit

Based on observations recorded in the Field Journals, students can continue to expand on their learning. Here are a few suggestions:

- Submit favorite exhibit and convince the class that it is the best. (Fact and Opinion)
- Create a piece of artwork inspired by something seen at the Mayborn.
- Write a story including something learned or seen on the field trip.
- Research and present a topic of interest.
- Share thoughts and impressions of objects or artifacts with the class.

Other Ideas for Continued Learning

- Promote math skills with timelines found in the Natural and Cultural History Exhibits.
- Explore technology “then vs. now.”
- Utilize the exhibits to promote vocabulary development.
- Draw a map of the museum or use a copy found online to teach map skills.