

Frequently Asked Questions

How does snack or lunch work during field trips?

We provide carts for you to store your food. Upon your arrival, we place lunches on the carts and leave it along the wall in the Entry Pavilion. You are responsible for wheeling your food to the tables for snack or lunch whenever you are ready. Our designated eating area is outside, part of which has a large tent covering. Please do not bring items that require refrigeration or heating.

What if it rains on the day of our trip?

Play and learning still happens on rainy days. We cannot cancel trips due to rain, but there are things we can do to make it great. Please prepare families by reminding them to dress for the weather as best they can. We do have a set of children's raincoats for the students to borrow during their field trip, and a few umbrellas for adults to use if they'd like. If there is an outdoor program planned Connections staff will be ready to play in the rain, but if adults and children do not want to, they can opt to play in the museum's indoor spaces instead. No one is forced to play outside. Our designated eating area is outside and Connections staff will do our best to accommodate your needs. Please call us if you are concerned about the weather forecast for the day you have a trip scheduled.

How many chaperones can we bring?

You are welcome to bring as many adults as you like! A minimum of one adult for every five children is required at the museum. There is usually space on the bus for at least one adult for every three children. If more adults want to come along than can ride the bus, they are welcome to carpool and meet the class at the museum.

Can siblings come on the field trip?

It depends. Is it okay with your school and your supervisor? Do you have at least one adult to supervise every five children, not including parents with babies? If you answered "yes" to both of these questions, call us to talk it over. Please note our programs are developmentally appropriate for preschoolers and are not necessarily suitable for infants or toddlers. Our primary focus is a safe and rich learning experience for the preschool children in your classroom.

Who do I ask about our field trip bus transportation?

Your Connections team handles bus logistics. Give us a call!

Who will guide us during the field trip?

Connections staff will always greet you upon arrival and provide an orientation for each visit. During any visit with special programming, Connections staff will guide that portion of your time. You, your co-teachers, and chaperones will guide your open exploration of the museum exhibit spaces.

Can you accommodate special needs?

All exhibits are wheelchair accessible. Please let us know if a student or chaperone has any special needs. We will do our best to accommodate everyone.

Can you accommodate translation needs?

Connections staff will always check in with the lead teachers to assess needs and help identify an adult in your group that can help with translation. Please always know what languages students and adults need translation for. Often times Connections staff is able to provide Spanish translation, so please ask if it is needed. We appreciate your help in making sure important information is translated into the needed languages for your group.

How do you ensure safety at the museum?

The Bay Area Discovery Museum has closed fencing, and there is only one entry/exit for the whole museum, which is always staffed, so no child can exit unsupervised. Only children and their caregivers are allowed into the museum. Single adults (without children) are not permitted to enter the site.

The museum has First Aid and CPR trained staff called Duty Officers. If your child is hurt, lost, or if you need any help at all notify a staff member. All staff carry radios and a Duty Officer can meet you or your child to help. All staff is trained in reuniting lost children with their adults.

Who do I contact with questions about Connections?

Please feel free to call either (415) 339-3903 or (415) 339-3940 OR email connections@badm.org at anytime.