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Your Custom Florida STEM Tour

At Visions, we are your STEM Specialists. In fact, we are the leading school Science operator in the world. When it comes to Florida, you can trust that no one knows science the way our team does. With our special STEM Operations staff we will ensure your group is set up for success. Don't take a chance on a poor tour experience; insist on **proven value and education**. We will not take you on a sightseeing tour. Let us show you Florida Science the way it was meant to be and the way we have been operating there for over 10 years! Let us show you how to engage your students like no other. Join us in Florida!

We understand that different groups want different things and are happy to help you achieve this. In Florida, we offer a wide variety of STEM activities so you can find just the right mix. Here's how it works... First, our tours start off with an Orlando base. This can be 2 days or 6 days; totally your choice. You select the activities you want included and we'll set it up with the very best schedule and rates. Then, add on a 2nd destination if you like. We offer four incredible add-on destinations including our beloved Anna Maria Island, an add-on to swim with the Manatees in Crystal River, an add-on to Miami, and an add-on to discover marine biology in the Florida Keys. It's that simple! You tell us what you want and we'll set your school up for success!

TROPICAL STEM - SAMPLE ITINERARY			
	MORNING	AFTERNOON	
1	Travel to Florida, Welcome & Safety Review; Dinner On Own		
2	NASA's Kennedy Space Center & Salute to Science Master Class		Hotel Dinner
3	Sea World's Marine Sciences Master Class & Theme Park		WonderWorks & Pizza
4	Clearwater Marine Aquarium & Master Class Series & Boat Tour (see Winter!)		Hotel Dinner
5	Wild Florida Airboat & Wildlife Tour	Transfer to EXCURSION	
6	OPTION 1 - ANNA MARIA ISLAND		Transfer to Anna Maria Island
7	'Sea Kayak Ecology' OR 'Coastal Birding' Master Class	Free Time at Beach	Local Dinner
8	Full Day at Mote Marine Aquarium with Master Class Series		Local Dinner
9	Beach Scavenger Hunt		
6	OPTION 2 - CRYSTAL RIVER MANATEE SWIM		Transfer to Crystal River
7	Homosassa Wildlife Park & Presentation		Manatee Snorkel Tour 1
8	Rainbow River Drift Tour		Depart for Home
6	OPTION 3 - KEY LARGO MARINE LABS		Transfer to Key Largo
7	Swim Evaluation	Seagrass Ecology / Lagoon Snorkel	Invertebrate Diversity Lab
8	Seagrass / Mangrove Ecology	Coral Reef Field Trip 1	Fish Identification & Plankton Lab
9	Coral Reef Field Trip 2		Depart for Home
6	OPTION 4 - MIAMI EXPEDITION		Transfer to Miami
7	Everglades Safari Park		Miami Tour & Free Time
8	Miami Seaquarium + Dolphin Encounter		Local Dinner
9	Jungle Island Theme Park		Depart for Home

Some general tour notes:

- All tours must have a minimum of 20 students to comprise a 'group' and be eligible for group rates. We apologise but we only work with school groups. If you do not have enough students to comprise a tour, ask us! We have several schools who find themselves

in similar positions and we are happy to put you in touch with one another, aligning your individual needs.

- As a base, we generally work with Rosen Hotels in Orlando. Situated directly on I-Drive (International Drive), Rosen Hotels make a great choice with ease to get around on your own, use the I-Drive Trolley, or scheduled motorcoach transportation.
- Our tours are generally costed by using the maximum occupancy for all lodging. This means 4 students sharing a room with 2 queen beds, and 2 staff members sharing a room, each in their own bed. If you would like costs calculated differently, please just ask. If pricing is a major issue, always try to set up a very specific number of rooms to maximize costs (i.e. allow for a specific number like 24 boys and 24 girls; knowing you are maximizing all 6 rooms per gender with 4 students).
- While in Orlando, we generally use pick-up and drop-off services for transportation to keep rates at a minimum. This means that transportation is not included for any times not required and that you do not have free use of a motorcoach. Transportation costs are usually the highest costs of your tour, outside of flights. If you wish to be provided a quote with a dedicated motorcoach at all times, please enquire.
- Dinner on your night of arrival is not included in quotes to accommodate a wide array of flight times. If, after you have received your flight times you would like to add this in, please just let us know.
- Lunches are not included in your quote unless the activity option specifically states this. On most days you will be at parks and other sites allowing for a great flexibility to suit all preferences.
- **All** of our Florida tours are accompanied. We want to make sure you are set up for success so let us deal with the little things, you sit back and enjoy the tour alongside your students.
- Looking for a multiple week tour? Feel free to ask us to add on other options such as Washington DC or Cozumel. The choice is yours!

School Activity Options

2 Days at Universal: Universal Studios + Islands of Adventure Theme Parks with a Park-to-Park Pass Plus a 3-hour Master Class: 'Special FX' OR 'Behind the Adventure'

Allows for park admission plus a 3-hour Master Class which begins one hour prior to the park opening to the public. A minimum of 20 pupils is required for participation in the Master Class.

Special FX

A Special Effects programme to discover the secrets of making movie magic at Universal Studios. Through this interactive tour of Universal Studios, students will learn, hands-on, about the arts and sciences used to create some of the most spectacular special effects in motion picture history and what it took to recreate those effects in some of Universal Studios' most popular attractions.

Behind the Adventure

A Science and Technology Tour of Universal's Islands of Adventure. Students will have the opportunity to discover the science involved in creating the world's most technologically advanced theme park. Behind The Adventure showcases the physics, technology, horticulture and general sciences that went into designing and building this state-of-the-art theme park.

- **UPGRADE AVAILABLE:** Include both 3-hour Master Classes; one on each day



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- **UPGRADE AVAILABLE:** Purchase additional Master Class options as detailed below. Please note that the 2-day ticket, as above, must also be purchased.

Universal Studios Theme Parks 1-Hour Master Classes

This allows for extra educational classes to be added on to ensure your educational needs are prioritized and achieved. The classes available are 1-hour in length so plenty of time for the parks. Choose from adding on a single class or multiple classes. A minimum of 40 pupils is required for participation in these 1-hour Master Class.

Ride Design: Innovation in Motion

Participate in an in-depth discussion of ride design and the application of science and physics when building attractions at Universal Studios® and Universal's Islands of Adventure®. Hear what engineers at Universal Orlando® use on a daily basis to design state-of-the-art attractions.

Our Weather: Planning for Nature

Meet with and learn from Orlando's own WESH 2 meteorologist Amy Swezey. In this unique live presentation, you'll see what goes into understanding weather patterns and the impact they can have on theme park guests.

Marketing and Sales: Getting the Message Out

The Marketing and Sales program teaches students about the effective marketing and sales campaigns created to promote Universal Orlando® Resort. Students learn about advertising, group sales, branding, marketing, and promotions. The program describes campaigns and marketing tactics for attractions such as The Amazing Adventures of Spider-Man® and The Wizarding World of Harry Potter™, special events, and other marketing initiatives throughout the resort.

Culinary Arts: Recipe for Success

Cooking is one of the hottest topics around. Learn firsthand what it takes when you tie in business elements within the culinary world. See culinary techniques and strategy in a fun, interactive setting from our highly experienced chefs and culinary teams.

Universal Studios Theme Parks 2-Hour Business Learning Master Classes

Presented by CNBC'S THE PROFIT, featuring Marcus Lemonis, in association with Columbia College and split into three equally engaging, cumulative segments (offered as individual programs); this programme takes the apprehension out of career planning. From picking a path to positive people skills, students will get real world advice from a global expert. The classes available are 2-hours in length and a minimum of 20 pupils are required for participation.

Career Selection & Preparation

It's good to hit the ground running, and this segment walks students through the initial steps. They'll learn how to choose the right career path for themselves, think of (and market) themselves as a personal brand during the job-hunting process, and ace job interviews.

Business Development: People, Product, Process

Developing a business is often as challenging as choosing one. This segment emphasizes the equal importance of establishing and maintaining a quality product, dedicated people, and an efficient process to keep things moving ahead into the future.

Leadership Skills & Personal Development

The cream rises to the top, and in a successful business, they achieve it as a team. In the final segment of this program, your students will learn why a foundation of teamwork, trust, and honesty is crucial to effective communication, morale and integrity in any workplace.

SeaWorld Theme Park + Master Class

Embark on a journey in this behind-the-scenes look at SeaWorld's efforts to preserve and protect the many species that share our planet. Students will investigate the challenges and problems facing dolphins, manatees and sea turtles as they encounter these animals up-close and in person. You'll be paired with a marine biology expert who will lead your group through all the many challenges in today's marine world. Visit behind-the-scenes exhibits and gain a better understanding of the daily operations at SeaWorld; discover the work being done to help protect endangered animals; attend educational presentations and entertaining animal presentations – all the while learning from the experience and knowledge of a SeaWorld instructor. Time for rides and attractions too! [Sea World](#)

Aquatica Orlando by SeaWorld

Enjoy the day at Aquatica Orlando -- a whimsical, one-of-a-kind water park that's only in Orlando and could only come from SeaWorld! Float through an undersea world of colourful fish, race into rolling rapids or get soaked on the tube slides that send you speeding through a lively lagoon filled with playful, black and white Commerson's dolphins. Aquatica Orlando has something for everyone! Whether your idea of water play is serene or extreme, you'll find it on the state-of-the-art rides and slides -- you just need to find one that's your speed! [Aquatica](#)

NASA's Kennedy Space Center + 'Salute to Science' Master Class

This interactive 6-hour Master Class features a fun, educational and team building experience with **lunch included**. Participants kick-off and then, after meeting one of the astronauts and learning about space missions, a challenge is given to the students. Prizes are awarded for winning teams within their age groups. Also included (additional coach time may be added at additional cost) are admission to the Visitor's Center which includes special activities, IMAX films, the Kennedy Space Center tour, Shuttle Launch Experience, U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame, plus all shows and exhibits. Groups should have a minimum of 30 pupils to participate in this activity. [Kennedy Space Center](#)

NASA's Kennedy Space Center + 'Space Explorers Adventure' Master Class

This adventure provides unique educational experiences such as working as a team on a mock space mission in a life-sized replica of a space shuttle and training on a shuttle landing simulator similar to the ones used by NASA astronauts. Students also experience authentic space training using the Multi-Axis Trainer simulating the disorientation felt in a tumble spin during re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere. Using the micro-gravity wall, students experience how the human body adapts and moves in the unique environment of space. The Trajectory Chair simulator combines concepts such as the Coriolis Effect. The ground-breaking National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) 'Science on a Sphere' presentation, along with thought-provoking science demonstrations, help students understand the most challenging science concepts. Groups should have a minimum of 30 pupils to participate in this activity. [Kennedy Space Center](#)

NASA's Kennedy Space Center's Lunch with an Astronaut

Join Kennedy Space Center for Lunch with an Astronaut, where you'll sit down to a delicious buffet meal, featuring salads, hot entrées and desserts, and hear from a veteran NASA astronaut about what it's really like to launch, live and work in space. He or she speaks and shows a personalised presentation, then takes individual questions from you and other guests. Now is the time to ask everything you've ever wanted to know about being a part of NASA's elite astronaut corps. Be sure to bring your camera – part of your experience includes the chance to snap a photo with your new astronaut friend. [Kennedy Space Center](#) (KSC Admission ticket required; not included)

NASA's Kennedy Space Center – Visitor's Center / Day on Own

A day to see all the shows and exhibits and enjoy. No set agenda, you're on your own. Do what you want, when you want. Kennedy Space Center admission includes IMAX® space films, all exhibits and shows, the Kennedy Space Center Bus Tour and the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame. [Kennedy Space Center](#)

Busch Gardens Theme Park - Tampa

From the free-roaming animals on the Serengeti Plain to world-class entertainment, you'll discover a unique combination of distinctive backdrops, impressive service and exotic animals that will make your group shine at Busch Gardens Tampa. No master class included. [Busch Gardens](#)

Discovery Cove

Discovery Cove is a unique all-inclusive park. The park restricts attendance so is able to provide a more intimate, resort-like experience unlike any park in the world today. Guests are able to snorkel with tropical fish and rays in The Grand Reef, wade beside marmosets and otters in the Freshwater Oasis, hand-feed parrots, toucans, and other exotic birds in the free flight Explorer's Aviary, and relax in the large resort pool and swim along a tropical river. Other amenities include freshly prepared breakfast and lunch, unlimited snacks and drinks, free equipment rentals and a souvenir snorkel. [Discovery Cove](#)

Discovery Cove + 'Swim with Dolphins' Experience

Make a friend that will live in your heart forever when you experience a one-on-one dolphin encounter. Learn about dolphin behaviour and communication. Wade into the dolphin lagoon and come nose-to-bottlenose with one of these fascinating and intelligent animals. Take hold of its dorsal fin and hold on for the ride of a lifetime. The highlight of a visit to Discovery Cove is the opportunity to swim with a bottlenose dolphin during a 30-minute interactive adventure. Accompanied by a trainer, small groups of guests wade into shallow water and become acquainted with their dolphin through hugs, kisses and rubdowns. Then, taking the adventure one step further, guests interact with their dolphin in deeper water for an exciting dorsal fin tow ride back to shore. [Discovery Cove](#) [Swim with Dolphins](#)

Gatorland Park + Animal Science Master Class

For over half a century, schools from around the globe have ventured through the glass double doors on their way to a journey through this natural, low-tech adventure. Gatorland is a 110-acre park and wildlife preserve, combining "Old Florida" charm with exciting new exhibits and entertainment. Known internationally as the "Alligator Capital of the World," Gatorland today provides fun with thousands of alligators and crocodiles, a breeding marsh with boardwalk and observation tower, one-of-a-kind reptilian shows, aviary, petting zoo, swamp walk, educational programmes and much, much more. [Gatorland](#)

WonderWorks + Dinner Pizza Party

Wonderworks is an amusement park for the mind, combining education and entertainment in over 100 hands-on exhibits for students of all ages. Students will feel the 65-mph hurricane force winds, be shaken by a 5.3 earthquake, play virtual sports, land the space shuttle, fly a fighter jet, lay on a bed of nails, design and ride their own roller coaster and even compete in a Laser Tag game in the world's largest Laser Tag Arena & Arcade! Schools will also experience the "Outta Control Comedy/Magic Dinner Show" combining high-energy comedy improvisation with spectacular magic to thoroughly entertain audiences of all ages! During the show, schools will enjoy unlimited hand-tossed pizza, popcorn and soft drinks. Plan for approximately 3 to 4-hours. [WonderWorks](#)



Orlando Science Center + Master Class

The Orlando Science Center is committed to learning by offering programmes that help students discover the magic of science; bringing science to life with interactive learning, live presentations and experienced instructors. Schools can choose between three specialised lab Master Classes: **FORENSIC SCIENCE LAB** - This lab is designed to intrigue and interest your students in the field of forensic science. Discover how techniques such as chromatography, blood typing and facial recognition computer software have changed the world of crime solving. See how forensic scientists use biology, physics and chemistry in the field of criminology. **ADVANCED CHEM LAB** - Be enchanted by how temperature effects reaction rates and use inquiry-based learning to separate substances. Use the SPARK Science Learning System and PASCO probeware technology to analyse rise and fall in temperature of chemical changes. Test reactions and burn compounds to identify unknown substances. **ADVANCED BIO LAB** - Explore how the levels of CO₂ in a plant terrarium will change during photosynthesis and cellular respiration. Discover the different ways stimulants and depressants will affect the physiological activity in the body. Find which organelles an animal cell and a plant cell have in common with wet-mount and methylene blue stained cheek and onion cells. Determine the probability of possible combinations of alleles that can result in a generation when creating an Orlando Science Center family tree! [Orlando Science Center](#)

Wild Florida Airboat Rides + Master Class Series

Located 45 minutes outside of Orlando, a visit into the Florida Everglades will be the wildest adventure you'll find in Central Florida. Experience a part of Florida that hasn't changed much from when early pioneers arrived in covered wagons in the 1800s. Climb aboard a U.S. Coast Guard certified airboat and catch a glimpse of alligators, eagles, turkeys, wild boars, roseate spoonbills, and other native creatures. Stroll through the Wildlife Park where you can see lemurs, sloths, zebras, and other animals native to South America, Africa, and Australia. Want to take a trip back in time to one of the first cattle operations in Central Florida? Hop aboard the Ranch Buggy Tour for a look at a working cattle operation that can trace its roots to the 1850s. Wild Florida is a feast for the eyes and the soul. **Educational Components:** 1) Airboat Eco-Tour. Students will see a variety of animal and plant wildlife identified by airboat captains. Topics covered will include the Florida Ecosystem, native and invasive species, and interdependence attributes. 2) Alligator Presentation. Students will get an up-close look at alligators with an in-depth presentation of topics including lifecycle, diet, anatomy/physiology and behavioral aspects. 3) Wildlife Park. Students will be taken on a guided tour of the wildlife park with over 100 species of native and exotic animals including a walk through 'Hawk Swamp' to see what Florida looked like 1,000 years ago. Topics include the swamp ecosystem, endangered and threatened species, adaptations and characteristics of animals. The **½ Day Everglades Package** includes a 1-hour airboat tour, an alligator demonstration with photo, a BBQ lunch, a souvenir plus admission to the Wildlife Park; all with the master class educational elements as above. [Wild Florida](#)

I-Fly Indoor Skydiving + STEM Master Class

The STEM Master Class uses iFLY's unique vertical wind tunnel facility to make STEM exciting. Curriculum has been designed by STEM professionals and includes an interactive presentation based on engineering and physics, a lab activity including parachute investigation, and full training for indoor skydiving by IBA certified flight instructors. Each child will fly one-on-one with an instructor at all times and then fly for 1 minute in the tunnel—the equivalent of 1 1/2 skydives. High flights and 'rides' to the top of the tunnel are available at an additional charge. All classes receive digital photos emailed to the Party Leader plus a class video of their flight. [I-Fly](#)

Tampa's Florida Aquarium + 2 Lab Master Classes + Behind-the-Scenes Tour

Come see why The Florida Aquarium is one of the top aquariums in the country, with over 20,000 sea creatures! Experience sharks, alligators, otters, penguins and more. Encounter ring-tailed lemurs, hissing cockroaches and colourful chameleons in the 'Journey to Madagascar' exhibit. Includes admission, two Laboratory master classes and a behind-the-scenes tour. Choose 2 from Squid Dissection Lab, Plankton Lab, Sedimentology Lab or Marine Invertebrate Zoology. [Florida Aquarium](#)



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Tampa Zoo + 2 Master Classes + Lunch

Get wild going behind the scenes at Lowry Park Zoo in Tampa! Choose from 4 Master Class tours: [Animal Careers Workshop](#) – Discover more about animal related careers and get to know some of the animals up close. Includes an introduction to animal careers, an animal encounter, a Zoo tour including a behind-the-scenes component, and an animal enrichment or husbandry experience. [Wetlands Connections Science Safari](#) – This programme is perfect for students to learn the importance of wetlands and how they support a wide diversity of life. While here, students will participate in an experiment, go on a mini-scavenger hunt, and meet an animal ambassador. [Zoomazing Race](#) – Boost teamwork and morale among your group as members race across the zoo to solve clues, searching for answers and competing in team mini-challenges. [Inside Look Tour](#) – Take a sneak peek behind-the-scenes as you glimpse into the inner workings of a zoo. During this programme your groups will visit the zoo’s commissary where the animals’ diets are made, tour the world-class manatee hospital, and have an up close animal interaction. [Lowry Park Zoo](#)

Clearwater Marine Aquarium + Master Classes + Boat Tour + Packed Lunch

Come explore this unique non-profit hospital dedicated to rescue, rehabilitation and release of marine animals. See their mission in action as you discover the rehab and surgical areas and get up-close inspiration from the stories of the resident animals, including *Winter the dolphin*, who swims with a prosthetic tail. Feed the sting rays, sharks and pelicans, or cruise on an interactive boat safari. Hop aboard a complimentary boat or trolley shuttle to nearby *Winter’s Dolphin Tale Adventure*, where you’ll discover a museum of rebuilt sets and props from the Dolphin Tale movies and walk through the Hurricane Experience exhibit. All this and much more await you for a day of fun and a lifetime of inspiration. Your day will include a Behind-the-Scenes and Hospital Tour, a Stranding Master Class, a boxed lunch, a Mock Stranding Exercise, a Dolphin Adventure Boat Tour and then time to view the aquarium and see the stages of the Dolphin Tale. [Clearwater Marine Aquarium](#)

Free Day in Orlando

Add a free day into the mix to do what you want, when you want!

Add-On Excursions

Anna Maria Island

Spend a minimum of 2-nights on Anna Maria Island and include a full day at Mote Marine Laboratories with a Master Class Series, a Birding Ecology Master Class by Around the Bend Nature Specialists OR a Sea Kayak Ecology Master Class, a Beach Scavenger Hunt and free time at the beach. (2.5-hour coach journey from Orlando) [Around the Bend Nature](#) [Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium](#) [Sea Kayak Ecology](#)

Day	Morning	Afternoon
1	Transfer to Anna Maria Island (2.5-hours)	'Sea Kayak Ecology' OR 'Coastal Birding Ecology' Master Class
2	Full Day at Mote Marine Aquarium with Master Class Series	
3	Beach Scavenger Hunt & Free Time	Depart for Home

Crystal River

Spend 2-nights in Crystal River with a specialised snorkel programme to explore the inlet Manatees. Crystal River offers one of best locations to see and interact with the Florida Manatee, a subspecies of the West Indian manatee, also known as ‘gentle giants.’ Although under the wing of instructors and guides, students should be able to swim competently to elect this option. (2-hour coach journey from Orlando) [Plantation at Crystal River](#) [Manatee Tours](#) [Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park](#)

<u>Day</u>	<u>Morning</u>	<u>Afternoon</u>
1	Transfer to Crystal River (1.5-hours)	Homosassa Wildlife Park & Presentation
2	Manatee Snorkel Tour 1	Rainbow River Drift Tour
3	Manatee Snorkel Tour 2	Depart for Home

Key Largo / Florida Keys

Spend a minimum of 2-nights exploring Marine Biology & Oceanography at Marine Labs in the Florida Keys. Through introductory discussions, hands on lab activities and field observations via snorkelling field trips, students learn about the interdependent, holistic nature of the marine ecosystem of the subtropical Florida Keys. From the seagrass beds out to the third largest coral reef in the world, their marine biologist instructors will lead your students on an amazing discovery and create memories that will last a lifetime! Please note that space is very limited so early reservations are a must! (4.5-hour coach journey from Orlando) [Marine Labs](#)

<u>Day</u>	<u>Morning</u>	<u>Afternoon</u>	<u>Evening</u>
1	Transfer to Key Largo (4.5-hours)	Seagrass Ecology / Lagoon Snorkel	LAB: Invertebrate Diversity
2	Seagrass / Mangrove Ecology	Coral Reef Field Trip 1	Fish Identification & Plankton LAB
3	Coral Reef Field Trip 2	Depart for Home	

Miami

Spend 2-nights exploring Miami to include an ‘Everglades Safari Park’ excursion, a ‘Jungle Island Park’ excursion and a ‘Miami Seaquarium’ excursion including a choice of ‘Dolphin Encounter’ or ‘Sea Trek Reef Encounter.’ (4-hour coach journey from Orlando) [Everglades Safari Park](#) [Jungle Island Park](#) [Seaquarium](#) [Seaquarium’s Dolphin Encounter](#) [Seaquarium’s Sea Trek Reef Encounter](#)

<u>Day</u>	<u>Morning</u>	<u>Afternoon</u>
1	Transfer to Miami (4-hours)	Jungle Island Theme Park
2	Miami Seaquarium + Encounter!	
3	Everglades Safari Park	Travel Home

**Nobody understands Florida like your
Visions STEM Team!**

To make your selections, simply ask us for a School Quote Request.



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