

BCCM Educators Guide

Key Learning Area & Sample Essential Questions



Shhh...Don't Tell the Kids They Are Learning!

Welcome Educators! It is well known that the first years of life are essential to future learning. Children's museums are leading a movement that combines specific learning objectives with play in informal learning environments that are developmentally appropriate for infants, toddlers and children. Through thoughtfully designed spaces with universal design in mind, The Bucks County Children's Museum provides an opportunity for children to explore, discover and learn in a safe environment and at their own unique pace. Opened in 2011, our 9,500 square foot museum includes unique exhibit areas designed by a team of professional educators from across the region with curriculum standards in mind. We encourage you to encourage your students to PLAY...but don't let them know that we have snuck in some learning!

Use the attached map and outline of Key Learning Areas & Sample Essential Questions to prepare for your field trip.



Educators: It's helpful to divide students & chaperones into 3 - 4 groups and rotate through exhibit areas instead of everyone trying to play in one exhibit area at a time.



	Bucks County Country	Tinkering Workshop	Town Square	Airways & Waterways
Key Learning Areas	- Natural Sciences - Language and Literacy Development - Health Wellness & Physical Development	- Scientific Thinking - Personal Social	- Social Studies - Health, Wellness, and Physical Development - Mathematical Thinking and Expression	- Scientific Thinking - Personal Social - Arts and Humanities

Grade Level Essential Question Examples

Pre-K Essential Questions	1) Can you find animals in the forest? 2) What letters & numbers do you see in the camper? 3) Can you climb to the top of the treehouse?	1) What happens when you place a ball on the ramp? 2) Can you put the car tracks together? 3) Can you share the race cars with your friends?	1) Can you find a flag at the Inn? 2) What is a hospital? 3) Can you feed the horses in the barn 5 carrots?	1) What happens if you place a scarf in the tubes? 2) Can you share the boats with your friends? 3) Can you make different sounds on the sound tubes?
Kindergarten Essential Questions	1) Name the animals you find in the forest. 2) Can you use the magnets in the camper to make a forest scene? 3) Help a friend make a fossil imprint on the pin screen.	1) What happens when you send a ball down connected ramps on the ball wall? 2) What cars travel faster down the track and why? 3) Can you race a car down the tracks with a friend?	1) Who was George Washington? 2) Can you hear the patient's heartbeat in the ambulance? 3) Can you sort the fruits and vegetables in their correct bins?	1) What is pushing the scarf through the tube? 2) Race a boat down the canal with a friend. 3) What design can you make on the geoboard using the colored bands?
1st Grade Essential Questions	1) Using binoculars, what natural resources can you find? 2) Can you make a story with the magnets in the camper? 3) Work with a friend to find all the animals hidden in the forest.	1) What if you use straight ramps instead of curved on the ball wall? 2) Which tracks do the cars go down faster? 3) Can you work with a friend to create a long ramp path for the balls to go down?	1) What local river did George Washington Cross? 2) Name a body organ on the operation table. 3) How much does an apple cost in the store?	1) How do you choose the colored tube your scarf will travel through? 2) Work with a friend to make a canal for the boats to travel down. 3) Follow the directions to play a song on the piano.