

School excursion to Scienceworks

A Visual Story



Scienceworks

My class is going on an excursion to Scienceworks.

Scienceworks is a museum that has interactives, activities and learning experiences about science and technology.



Arriving at Scienceworks

We might go on a bus, on public transport, in a car, or we might walk to Scienceworks.

When we arrive, a Scienceworks staff member will meet us. They will show my class where to go.

There may be other schools and children there too.

I might need to wait while the teachers and staff help us get organised.



Storing our Bags

We will go downstairs and then enter Scienceworks through automatic sliding doors.

If I need to use the lift, I can go in it with my teacher or a parent helper.

We might need to wait while our teacher checks us in.

This area can be busy and noisy if other school groups are there.

We will put our bags on a trolley for the day. Scienceworks staff will look after the bags. I can get my bag at lunchtime and when it is time to leave.



Going to the Bathroom or Getting a Drink

If I need to go to the bathroom or get a drink of water, I can tell my teacher or parent helper and they can take me to a bathroom or water fountain.

There are bathrooms available at the school entrance on lower ground floor.

There is an accessible toilet available on the ground floor.



Scienceworks Staff

People who work at Scienceworks wear rainbow lanyards and may also wear a nametags and uniform.

If I need help, staff at Scienceworks can help me.

There will always be staff at the Information Desk or the Ticket desk.



Sensory Supports

Scienceworks can be loud and busy.

I might like to bring my own sensory tools to help me.

If I don't have my own, we can borrow a sensory bag for the day.

Inside the bag is:

- Ear defenders
- Sensory tools
- Communication cards

My teacher or supervisor can borrow a sensory bag from the Information Desk.



Exploring Scienceworks

My teacher will have a plan for our day.

It will tell us what we are doing at Scienceworks.

We might explore exhibitions, watch a science show, or do a workshop.

If I have questions about what we are doing next, I can ask my teachers.

When we explore an exhibition, I will walk around with my group.

I can try different activities, games, and learning areas when it is our turn.



Staying Safe

When I explore the exhibitions, there are some rules to help keep everyone safe. We all need to:

- Stay close to our group
- Listen to instructions from our teachers
- Walk between activities
- Take turns with others



Think Ahead Gallery

We might go to the *Think Ahead* gallery.

This space shows how old, new, and future technologies can change our lives.

There are many things I can touch, play with, and try out.

Some things in this exhibition are for looking only. I can read information about them.



Sportsworks Gallery

I may visit *Sportsworks* with my group.

This is an active, hands-on space where I can move my body. I can try sports games like running, basketball, and soccer.

This space can be busy and loud.

There will be lots of other students and members of the public playing, so I might need to share and wait my turn.

If I need a break, I can ask my teacher to help me.



Ground Up Gallery

Ground Up is an exhibition for young children.

If I am in Foundation or Prep, my teacher may book a time in this space.

This is a dark space with places to climb, explore and build things.

This space is designed to be a safe area for children aged 0-5 years old.



Beyond Perception Exhibition

Beyond Perception is on the upper level of Scienceworks.

This exhibition is about invisible forces around us.

This gallery is darker, with low lighting, and has lots of coloured lights on screens.

There are big cushions I can lie on to take a break.

There are short films to watch, things I can touch, and digital activities.



Pumping Station

My class might visit the Pumping Station.

It was built over 100 years ago to help move Melbourne's sewage; but doesn't anymore.

I can still see the big steam engines that used to power the pumps.

It is an old building, and it might smell.

It can be very cold in these rooms, especially in winter.

The rooms are large, so there can be a big echo inside.



Visiting the Lightning Theatre

My group might go to a show in the Lightning Theatre.

In this show, a Scienceworks educator will do live science demonstrations.

For my own safety, it is important that I sit with my group and teachers in the seats, unless asked to be a helper.



Visiting the Lightning Theatre

It will be very dark in the Lightning Theatre when the show starts.

Sometimes there will be very bright lighting bolts inside the metal cage.

The metal cage keeps us safe. It holds the lightning inside so we can watch it safely from our seats.

The lightning can be loud and bright. The museum educator will let me know when it is about to happen.

I can cover my ears any time I need to.

I can close my eyes if I want to.

I will tell my teacher if I need to leave the Lightning Theatre during the show.



Visiting Melbourne Planetarium

My group might go to see a show in the Melbourne Planetarium.

The planetarium is like a movie theatre, but the screen is all around the room. The room will be dark, and we will be asked to stay quiet so everyone can hear the show.

During the show we will learn about the night sky, our solar system and outer space.

There are usually two parts:

- A movie
- A talk about the stars in the night sky

If I need to leave the planetarium, I can tell my teacher.



Eating at Scienceworks

When it is time to eat, I will get my lunch from my bag on the trolley and sit with my group outside - undercover.

There may be many other school groups there too.

It might feel hotter or colder outside than it did inside.

There may be seagulls nearby. I can sit with my teacher if that makes me feel better.



Leaving Scienceworks

When it is time to go home, I will go downstairs and get my bag with the rest of my group.

I can use the bathroom before we leave, because the trip home might be long.

We will leave through the automatic sliding doors and walk up the stairs.

If I need to use the lift, I can go in it with my teacher or parent helper.

**We hope you enjoy your visit to
Scienceworks.**