



Your field trip will include one workshop topic (choose from below) along with an After Party with a scientist related to the topic. Each workshop is designed to accommodate classrooms participating in virtual or in-person schooling. The discussions with a scientist after the activity are best suited for no more than 50 students.

Please review our offerings available during the semester of your field trip. When applying you will need to enter your preferred topic and also preferred week/time for your After Party with a scientist. Please note that these will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. The Discovery Outreach team will follow up as timely as possible to confirm status and After Party logistics.

Spring 2021

Renewable Energy with Everyday Materials

Did you know it's possible to make a device using common household materials that harnesses static electricity to light up an LED? In this experience, you will learn what a triboelectric nanogenerator is and then get to build one! After participating in the activity, you'll chat with scientists who study materials and how they can improve our lives. *PLEASE NOTE: Teachers will receive a package of materials to mail or distribute to the students in the class.*

DNA Decoded: Genes or the Gym?

At Illumina, we are on a mission to bring genomics into the classrooms. We want to bring science to each of you whether that is in the classroom or at home! Explore DNA, genetics and science with Illumina!

Meet the Lab: Cancer Detectives

Did you know that scientists can investigate cancer using light and microscopes? Explore the science in Melissa Skala's lab where researchers look for patterns in healthy cells and in cells affected by cancer. Your first stop will be a set of online learning experiences produced in partnership with PBS Wisconsin Education as part of the Timothy William Trout Education Fund, a gift of Monroe and Sandra Trout. These learning opportunities show how diverse groups of people work together across disciplines to pursue answers to questions about our world. After completing the activities on your own schedule, your class will have an online conversation with scientists who study cell patterns – using light and microscopes – to learn more about them and their work.

Meet the Lab: Tiny Earth

Tiny Earth is a global network of students and instructors dedicated to discovering new antibiotics through student-sourcing field research. Students collect and process samples from their local communities, send them to the lab for analysis and receive data from the analysis to complete their study. Your first stop will be a set of online learning experiences produced in partnership with PBS Wisconsin Education as part of the Timothy William Trout Education Fund, a gift of Monroe and Sandra Trout. These learning opportunities show how diverse groups of people work together across disciplines to pursue answers to questions about our world. After completing the activities on your own schedule, your class will have an online conversation with scientists who study antibiotics by searching for microorganisms in soil. It will be a great opportunity to learn more about the scientists and their work.

A Day in the Life of a Stem Cell Scientist

Have you ever wondered what a science lab actually looks like and who works in a science lab? In this experience you'll get to take a behind-the-scenes tour of a stem cell research lab at UW-Madison - with a scientist as the tour guide! After the tour of the lab, you'll get to chat with scientists about what it's like to be a scientist. It's a perfect opportunity to hear more about how they knew they wanted to be a scientist, what their science career pathway was like and what a day in the life of scientist looks like.

How Do New Species Develop?

The speciation lab researchers focus on genetics to better understand how species are formed by evolution and the barriers to reproduction. Over time, one lineage splits into two lineages that lose the ability to successfully reproduce with each other. Reproductive barriers accumulate through normal evolutionary change and new species appear. Barriers can take on many forms, including (for example) hybrid sterility, mating preferences and geographic isolation. Join a chat with these scientists who helped create the speciation card game. The speciation card game shows biological examples and concepts of the diversity of life and begins to formulate stories through game play of how species originate.

My Story in Science So Far: From Voices Underrepresented in Science

Join SciMed Graduate Research Scholars (GRS) for an engaging and interactive discussion with scientists and researchers who are underrepresented in science, engineering, technology and math careers. Engage with UW-Madison students and learn about their journey in STEM. How might your journey be similar or different from theirs?