

SISKIYOU COUNTY MUSEUM - CHAPERONE EXPECTATIONS

Chaperones have an essential role during a field trip to make sure students stay safe, have fun and learn. Following these guidelines will help to ensure that your experience is both positive and rewarding.

- While our staff are here to serve you during your trip, please remember they must serve other guests as well. For the safety of your students and the consideration of our other guests, we ask that you take responsibility for the behavior of your students. *Lack of supervision and/or inappropriate behavior may result in our staff requesting that all field trip attendees leave the museum.*

- **Group Size:** For the best museum tour, groups of *10 students or less are best. Larger (or combined) groups take away from the experience because not every student will be able to view the information being presented. **We request at least one chaperone per group of seven (PreK-5) or ten (6-12) students.*

- **Before the Trip:** Review the Siskiyou County Museum's "Field Trip Behavior Expectations" with your students and chaperones. Divide students into small groups, as directed above. Assign chaperones.

- **On Field Trip Day:** Instruct your students to remain in their assigned groups. Chaperones must always supervise their groups. Review the "Field Trip Behavior Expectations" with students before you check in.

- **Chaperones & Teachers:** Your attention must always be focused on your students. Therefore, we ask that you refrain from using your cellphone (*except for emergencies or essential teacher/school contact*).

- Know exactly how many students are in your group. Know your students' names and be sure they know your name. *Instruct your students to go to the admission desk if they become lost.*
- In the event of an emergency, contact Museum Staff (including injury, illness or a lost child).

Tips for Navigating the Siskiyou County Museum:

- *Maps and "scavenger hunts":* Available at the entrance, these items will enhance your tour experience.
- *Gift Shop:* Teacher permission is required before students may spend money at the gift shop. We recommend gift shop visits be saved for the end of the tour so that items purchased are not accidentally left behind. No more than five students are permitted in the gift shop at one time (teachers or chaperones may stand by the doorway if there are other students to supervise).
- *Food and Drink:* Students should store lunches and drinks in busses or cars. To protect and preserve the exhibits, consumption of food and drink is not permitted inside the museum.
- *Lunches:* If your students need a place to eat sack lunches, please ask a member of the Museum Staff to show you to the designated lunch area in the outdoor museum.
- *Indoor and Outdoor Museum:* We suggest dividing your field trip participants so that some groups are exploring the indoor portion of the museum while other groups are learning in the outdoor exhibits. Spreading out will improve traffic flow and enhance the learning experience of all of your students.

FIELD TRIP BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

*In order to ensure that all visitors have a safe, meaningful and enjoyable learning experience at the Siskiyou County Museum, we ask that you carefully read and *communicate the following behavior expectations to all students and chaperones before (and on) the day of your visit.*

1. Be Safe. Students must remain with chaperones. Break students into groups of at least one chaperone per seven students (Pre-K through Grade 5), or at least one chaperone per ten students (Grades 6 - 12).

- **Running, rough-housing, and climbing on exhibit structures are not permitted.**
- **Remember to “SHINE” (Acronym): *Stay in your own space, Hand up to speak, Interrupting isn’t polite, No unnecessary noise, Engage with the speaker***
- Distribute “scavenger hunts” to the students. This will help them focus their energy on learning from the exhibits. Students who complete the activities within the “passport” earn a reward (sticker).
- When students first enter an exhibition, give them time to acclimate to the new learning environment before engaging in a focused activity. This will improve attention and learning.
- Museum docents and staff are available for assistance. Museum docents have a wealth of knowledge about the Siskiyou County Museum. Be sure to ask if you have a question!

2. Be Respectful

- **Food, drink, and gum are not allowed in the exhibitions.**
- **Be a good steward of museum property. Only touch objects when invited to do so by museum signs or staff.**
- **Bring clipboards, notebooks, or find other appropriate hard surfaces to write on instead of display cases.**
- **Be considerate of other museum guests. Use indoor voices and set all cell phones to silent mode. Students are not permitted to bring cell phones into the museum.**
- Students may sit on the floor to closely observe exhibits if traffic flow is not blocked. Teachers – make sure your students leave room for other visitors to pass by.

3. Be Curious

- Write questions before visiting the Siskiyou County Museum. Students can develop “I wonder” statements to investigate during their visit. For example, *“I wonder when gold was discovered.”*
- Document observations at the museum. Students can record their observations through illustrations or notes. The passports will help guide students in their observations.
- Continue to think critically after visiting the Siskiyou County Museum. Students can compare observations, analyze, and interpret collected data to construct explanations in the classroom.

****Please read BOLDFACE sentences to students before and on the day of the field trip to the Siskiyou County Museum.***