

2026-2027

HERITAGE HOUSTON MUSEUM NATURAL SCIENCE CLASSES

Class Descriptions:

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

Wildlife Lab – *Magnificent Madagascar: (K-5th)* This island sits off the coast of Africa and is known as a biodiversity hotspot. Learn more about the strange inhabitants of this land that is roughly the size of Texas.

Dissection Lab – *Movers and Shakers: (6th-12th)* How do you move? In this class you learn about muscle and bone structure and function. Find out what your muscles are made of! (Includes chicken foot dissection)

OCTOBER 9, 2026

Earth Science Lab – *Tornado Alley: (K-5th)* Join us in this whirlwind of a class to find out more about tornadoes, how they form, and where we can find them in the United States!

Dissection Lab – *Colossal Calamari: (6th-12th)* Learn about internal and external anatomy of a common cephalopod, the squid through dissection. Learn how the squid differs from other mollusk in this inky dissection. (Includes squid dissection)

NOVEMBER 20, 2026

Techno-Science Lab – *Balancing Act: (K-5th)* From levers and mobiles to leaning towers, explore the center of mass and find out why it matters.

Wildlife Lab – *Nature's Revenge: (6th-12th)* Don't make them mad; these animals are equipped with toxins to fight back! Delve into the world of venomous and poisonous animals, particularly those that can be found in Texas.

DECEMBER 11, 2026

Techno-Science Lab – *Circular Motion:* Explore rolling and spinning and discover which shapes are speediest.

Wildlife Lab – *OTTERly Great Mustelids:* Find out why ferrets make great electricians, and how wolverines have influenced pop culture as we study ferrets, wolverines and their relatives.

JANUARY 8, 2026

Techno-Science Lab – *Discovering Density: (K-5th)* Discover how hot air balloons rise, why rocks sink, and what makes submarines go up and down.

Biology Lab – *Down in the Dermis: (6th-12th)* Take a closer look at the integumentary system in this lab as you learn about the structures of epidermis. Get an up-close view of the different features on skin that some animals have developed to survive in their natural environments

FEBRUARY 12

Wildlife Lab – *Myrmecology: (K-5th)* Most people are familiar with sugar ants, fire ants, crazy ants, and maybe even bullet ants, but that knowledge only scratches the surface. In fact, there are over 10,000 described ant species! Become a myrmecologist for the day and study ants that cooperate to form super colonies, set traps to capture prey and even grow their own food!

Earth Science Lab – *Making (Seismic) Waves: (6th-12th)* Explore seismic waves and the destruction left behind by earthquakes. Learn about how scientists predict them and what causes this natural disaster.

MARCH 19, 2026

Time Lab – *Underground Railroad: (K-5th)* Learn about how the Underground Railroad operated and allowed enslaved people to escape to freedom.

Dissection Lab – *Fabulously Fishy: (6th-12th)* Get hooked as you learn what makes fish so fishy. Learn about the taxonomy and ecology of the various fish species as you take a deep dive into the ins and outs of a fish (Includes perch dissection)

APRIL 16, 2026

Earth Science Lab – *Recycling: (K-5th)* Reduce, reuse, recycle! Discover the science behind recycling, and ways that you can improve your recycling skills!

Techno-Science Lab – *Marvelous Mixtures: (6th-12th)* Investigate properties of solutions, colloids, alloys and other mixtures.

MAY 14, 2026

Techno-Science Lab – *Sound Science: (K-5th)* Use tuning forks and tubes to investigate pitch, resonance and the science of music.

Wildlife Lab – *Deep Sea Divers: (6th-12th)* We know more about the surface of the moon than we do about the ocean floor. Although these deep-sea creatures are not from space, with their fangs, transparent heads, built in lights and love of toxic chemicals, they sure are aliens!

Check-in Process for Labs Classes:

1. You will be emailed a barcode for your class and it will be distributed by your coordinator to all of the chaperones attending that class.
2. When you get to the museum, you will pull up the barcode and head straight to any entrance to the Museum. You may bring a printed copy of the barcode or show the barcode on your phone.
3. Once they scan your ticket, you can head down to your designated labs. At the lab classrooms, you will pick up your chaperone sticker which will serve as your ticket for the day. Please only pick up one per chaperone.
4. Enjoy the Museum and/or your lab!

For classes starting later in the day, we recommend arriving early as the Museum can be quite busy!