

# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA STEM FIELD TRIP SITES 2022-23

You may have to copy & paste URLs into your search engine – [look for Covid 19 rules/closures](#)

Many Sites Are Offering [VIRTUAL](#) Field Trips: all LA City Operated venues require masks/vaccination proof

## GENERAL / INTEGRATED / ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Field Trips & Guest Speakers [http://www.csun.edu/~vceed002/ref/field\\_trips/field\\_trips.html](http://www.csun.edu/~vceed002/ref/field_trips/field_trips.html)

CA Parks Online Resources for Teachers-Students (**PORTS**) <https://www.ports-ca.us/>

CA Science Center, Los Angeles + Endeavour Shuttle, workshops, <https://californiasciencecenter.org/visit/field-trips-groups>

Chumash Indian Museum – in-person/virtual school tours, walks <https://www.chumashmuseum.org/school-tours>

CREEC Environmental Network, Southern CA Regions – Comprehensive environmental resources <https://creec.org/>

Community Nature Connection, LA – Free Events, hikes - <https://www.communitynatureconnection.org/>

Debs Park-Audubon Center Environmental Studies, LA - public, school programs <https://debspark.audubon.org/programs>

Discovery Cubes, Santa Ana and Los Angeles (Sylmar) - STEM fieldtrips <https://www.discoverycube.org/>

Disneyland Science Ed Labs - STEM trips <https://www.disneycampus.com/programs/science-technology/>

Friends of the LA River (FOLAR) Events, tours, conservation resources - <https://folar.org/>

Generation Earth, Environmental Science Events/Virtual as well <https://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/ge/Default.aspx>

Heal the Bay *Key-to-the Sea* Fieldtrips <https://healthebay.org/education/>

Inside the Outdoors®, OC - Educational Field trips <https://ocde.us/ito/Pages/Field-Trips.aspx>

Kidspace Children's Museum, Pasadena - <https://www.kidspacemuseum.org/>

LA County Science Fair - Open House: view projects, Interactive Exhibits <https://www.lascifair.org/>

LA Environmental Education Fair (**on hold**) nature activities, exhibits <https://amerikson.wixsite.com/laeef1>

LA River Project - Environmental projects, field research <https://www.theriverproject.org/programs>

Los Angeles Maritime Institute - TopSail STEM programs (LAUSD) <https://www.lamitopsail.org/#programs>

Orange County Science & Engineering Fair - <https://ocsef.org/>

Roots & Shoots (Jane Goodall's) - Projects/grants/speakers <https://www.rootsandshoots.org/educators>

Santa Monica Resource Conservation District - Field Program <http://www.rcdsmm.org/education/programs-for-students/>

Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy – Ed Programs <https://www.rcdsmm.org/education/field-trips-and-outdoor-programs/>  
Every 4th Grader FREE <https://www.nps.gov/samo/learn/education/classrooms/field-trips.htm>

The Reserve at Rancho Mission Viejo – K-5 VIRTUAL programs <https://www.thenaturereserve.org/school-programs>

Tree People (Environmental & Forestry Programs throughout So CA) <https://www.treepeople.org/education/>

## CATALINA ISLAND & CHANNEL ISLANDS CAMPS AND TOURS

Catalina Adventure Tours (comprehensive tour sites) <http://www.catalinaadventuretours.com/>

Catalina Island Conservancy (safari eco-tours - fabulous!!) <http://www.catalinaconservancy.org/index.php?s=visit>

Catalina Environmental Leadership Program (JM Cousteau School Camp) <https://www.celp.net/prospective-schools>

Catalina Island Marine Institute (CIMI) camps at Toyon Bay, Fox Landing, and Cherry Cove - awesome programs!  
<https://cimioutdoored.org/>

Mountain & Sea Adventures Camps, Emerald Cove, Live-aboard research ship - best snorkeling on island!  
<https://mountainandsea.org/science-camps-for-schools/>

Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, Ventura - <https://channelislands.noaa.gov/education/students-at-sea.html>

USC Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies - K-12, snorkeling <https://dornsife.usc.edu/uscseagrant/island-explorers/>

## RESIDENTIAL MAINLAND CAMPS

**LAUSD Outdoor Ed Programs** - outdoor camps at Clear Creek & Pt. Fermin <https://www.outdooreducation.org/programs>

**Emerald Cove Outdoor Science Institute** - Outdoor Ed camp 5<sup>th</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> graders <http://ecosinstitute.com>

**Guided Discoveries, Inc.** Home of CIMI, Astrocamp and Tole More Tall Ship <http://www.guidediscoveries.org/>

**High Trails Outdoor Science School** - 3-5 day programs, 4th grade and up <http://dirtyclassroom.com/>

**Pali Institute, Lake Arrowhead** - Outdoor Education camp <http://www.paliinstitute.com/>

**Los Angeles County Outdoor Science Schools**

- Camp Wrightwood <https://www.outdoorscienceschool.org/wrightwoodoss-1>

**Thousand Pines Outdoor Science School** - 5-6th grade programs <http://thousandpinesoutdoored.com/>

**YMCA Camps: Camp Oaks, Big Bear Residential Outdoor Education** <http://lbymca.org/campoakes/camp-oakes-home>

## LIFE SCIENCE

**Amigos de Bolsa Chica Wetlands, Huntington Beach** - free weekend tours <http://www.amigosdebolsachica.org/>

**Amigos de Los Rios (Emerald Necklace Watershed)** – tours, programs <https://amigosdelosrios.org/education/>

**Aquarium of the Pacific, Long Beach** – Field trip Scholarships <https://www.aquariumofpacific.org/education>

**Arboretum of Los Angeles** - free Tuesdays, school tours <https://www.arboretum.org/learn/teachers-schools/>

**Ballonas Wetlands, Playa Vista** <https://ballona.org/projects/educationprograms/>

**Buena Vista Museum of Natural History, Bakersfield** - Fossils [http://www.sharktoothhill.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=page&page\\_id=6](http://www.sharktoothhill.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=page&page_id=6)

**Birch Aquarium, La Jolla** - next to Scripps - Field trip Scholarships <https://aquarium.ucsd.edu/teachers/school-programs>

**Bolsa Chica Conservancy Interpretive Center** free weekend tours <https://bolsachica.org/programs/learn/school-visits-prek-college/>

**Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, San Pedro** free tours, scholarships <https://www.cabrilloaquarium.org/education.asp>

**Colorado Lagoon, Long Beach Wetland & Marine Science Education Center** <http://www.coloradolagoon.org/education.html>

**Crystal Cove State Park, Laguna Beach** - field trips <http://www.crystalcovestatepark.org/field-trip-information-2/>

**Dept of Recreation & Parks, City of LA** - comprehensive site <http://www.laparks.org/index.htm>

**DeForest Nature Trail** - riparian forest, wetlands <https://www.longbeach.gov/park/park-and-facilities/directory/deforest-park/>

**Dominguez Gap Trail** - 2 mile RT trail along LA River <https://dpw.lacounty.gov/swp/dominguezgapwetlands/#about>

**Descanso Gardens, La Cañada Flintridge** - tours <https://www.descansogardens.org/programs-events/schools-and-education/>

**Eaton Canyon Natural Area & Nature Center, Pasadena** <https://www.ecnca.org/>

**El Dorado Nature Center, Long Beach** – Programs, hiking, camps <http://www.longbeach.gov/park/park-and-facilities/parks-centers-pier/el-dorado-nature-center/>

**Environmental Nature Center, Newport Beach** – fieldtrips, camps <https://encenter.org/visit-us/programs-2/school-programs-2/>

**Fairview Park, Costa Mesa** –trails, vernal ponds, wetlands, grasslands, sage scrub <https://www.costamesaca.gov/residents/fairview-park>

**Fullerton Arboretum** native plant garden, free tours <https://fullertonarboretum.org>

**Huntington Library & Botanical Gardens** Education site - teachers need to take a workshop for FREE fieldtrip <https://www.huntington.org/school-programs>

**Irvine Regional Park, Orange** – multi-use, horse/hiking trails, interpretive center, ponds <https://www.ocparks.com/irvinepark>

**Japanese Garden at CSU Long Beach** free field trips <https://www.csulb.edu/japanese-garden/group-visits>

**Japanese Gardens, Tillman Water Reclamation, Van Nuys** – docent tours suspended <https://thejapanesegarden.com/visit/docent-tours/>

**Joshua Tree Nat. Park, Twentynine Palms** free ranger-led fieldtrips <https://www.nps.gov/jotr/learn/education/planfieldtrip.htm>

**La Brea Tar Pits / Page Museum, Los Angeles** - field trips, workshops <https://tarpits.org/educational-resources>

Living Desert Zoo and Gardens, Palm Springs - field trips <http://www.livingdesert.org/education/student-programs/>

Long Beach Marine Institute - marine sampling on boats <http://www.longbeachmarine.org/school-programs/>

Los Angeles County Beaches - 20 beaches, field research <https://www.lacounty.gov/things-to-do/beaches-harbors>  
Beach permits <http://beaches.lacounty.gov/school-field-trip-permit/>

Los Angeles County Parks - comprehensive list, field research <http://parks.lacounty.gov/kids-family/>

Los Angeles Maritime Institute – Tail Ships program, Summer camps <https://www.lamitopsail.org/>

Los Angeles Zoo & Botanical Gardens - discounted admission, tours <https://www.lazoo.org/plan-your-visit/camps-and-classes/>  
Docent-led Virtual Field Trips: <https://www.lazoo.org/explore-your-zoo/virtual-learning/docent-led-virtual-field-trips-for-schools/>

Los Cerritos Wetlands, Long Beach/Seal Beach <http://www.lcwwlandtrust.org/>

Madrona Marsh, Torrance – free tours, nature center <https://friendsofmadronamarsh.com>

Marine Mammal Care Center, San Pedro - free tours (under "Contact") <https://marinemammalcare.org/education/>

Malibu Lagoon State Beach - free tours, community programs [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=27244](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=27244)

Mildred E. Mathias Botanical Garden at UCLA - free tours <https://www.botgard.ucla.edu/tours/>

Mojave National Preserve, Barstow – free ranger programs <http://www.nps.gov/moja/index.htm>

Museum of Flying, Santa Monica - free tours <http://www.museumofflying.com/page/page/8731793.htm>

National Park Service “PARKNET” - field trips (58 parks) - filter by park, interest, type of resource, grade level <https://www.nps.gov/teachers/teacher-resources.htm#>

Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County: FREE fieldtrips, workshops <http://www.nhm.org/site/for-teachers>

Newport Bay Naturalists / Muth Interpretive Center - free tours, ed programs, kayaking <http://www.newportbay.org/>  
<http://newportbay.org/facilities/muth-interpretive-center/the-ic/>

Oak Canyon Nature Center, Anaheim Hills - hiking, school camp <http://www.anaheim.net/1111/Programs-Events-Tours>

Ocean Institute, Dana Point - compressive field trip programs - <https://oceaninstitute.org/>

Outdoor Science Schools, LA County - Colby, Wrightwood Camps; Floating Lab <http://www.outdoorscienceschool.org>

Palos Verdes Penn. Land Conservancy - school, public programs <http://pvplc.org/education/index.asp> - school

Placerita Canyon Nature Center, Newhall <http://www.placerita.org/>

Pt Vicente Interpretive Cntr (whale watching) <http://www.rpvca.gov/Facilities/Facility/Details/Point-Vicente-Interpretive-Center-13>

Rancho Los Alamitos, 7.5 acres "mini Huntington Gardens"; ponds, streams, farming <https://www.rancholosalamitos.com/>

Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Gardens - Low cost programs <https://www.rsabg.org/events-programs/school-tours-programs>

Royal Palms County Beach & Tidepools – White’s Point, PV - BEST tidepools in LA County - needs beach permit <http://beaches.lacounty.gov/white-point-royal-palms-beach/>

Roundhouse Marine Lab & Aquarium, Manhattan Beach - grants available <http://www.roundhouseaquarium.org/>

San Diego Zoo & Wild Animal Park - video-conferencing, sleep-overs; self-guided/guided tours <https://zoo.sandiegozoo.org/school-group-programs>

San Gabriel Canyon Ed Center, Mt. Baldy - tours, center <http://sgmha.org/programs-locations/schools/>

San Gabriel River Trail, Lakewood - walking trail, native plants <https://www.lakewoodcity.org/Things-to-Do/Outdoor-Activities/San-Gabriel-River-Parkway>

Santa Ana Zoo-Wild Animal Park - unique small zoo, great tours <https://www.santaanazoo.org/educatib.htm>

Santa Monica Pier Aquarium - through Heal the Bay, \$3 admission/student <https://healthebay.org/aquarium/>

Santiago Canyon Regional Park, Orange 1,269-acres trails, nature center, creeks, forests <https://www.ocparks.com/santiagooaks>

Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge - Citizens only (Naval Base) Untouched wetlands, Free 4th Sat Tours - must make reservations beforehand <https://www.fws.gov/refuge/seal-beach/visit-us>

**SeaWorld, San Diego Education Programs** - Comprehensive <https://seaworld.com/orlando/educational-programs/>

**Shibley Nature Center**, Huntington Beach - **tours \$3/person** <http://shibleynature.org/docent-tours/>

**Sooky Goldman Nature Center**, Beverley Hills (**Franklin Canyon Park**) - **school programs (call)** <https://www.nps.gov/samo/planyourvisit/franklincanyon.htm>

**Stough Canyon Nature Center**, Burbank - **hiking, docent programs** <https://www.burbankca.gov/web/parks-recreation/nature-center>

**South Coast Botanic Gardens**, Palos Verdes - **built on a land fill: FREE fieldtrips for LA County** <https://southcoastbotanicgarden.org/tours-and-services/>

**So. CA Marine Institute**, Terminal Island - **K-12 programs** <https://www.scmi.net/k-12-marine-science-programs/>

**Starr Ranch Sanctuary**, Trabuco Canyon, OC - **extensive field programs** <https://starranch.org/education/>

**Temescal Gateway Park**, Santa Monica Mountains - **Residential Outdoor Education (Bldgs closed for Covid)** <https://mrca.ca.gov/parks/park-listing/temescal-gateway-park/>

**Think Watershed Floating Lab** underserved 4-6th <http://www.thinkwatershed.org/pages/activities.html>

**Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary**, Modjeska Canyon, OC – **Tours on hold (super hummingbird sanctuary)** <https://encenter.org/tucker/>

**Turtle Rock Nature Center** - **FREE pocket park** <https://www.cityofirvine.org/parks-facilities/turtle-rock-nature-center>

**UC Nature Reserve System - Stunt Ranch**, Santa Monica - **HUGE - call for docent tours** <http://stuntranch.ucnrs.org/outreach-stunt-ranch-reserve/>

**Whale Watching**: Redondo, Marina Del Rey, San Pedro (**with Cabrillo Aquarium naturalist tour guides**) <https://mdrsf.com/matt-walsh/>  
<https://sanpedro.com/whale-watching-san-pedro-ca-los-angeles-harbor/>

**White Point Nature Preserve-Education Center**: San Pedro <https://pvplc.org/lands/whitepoint.asp>

**Whale Watch Cruises**, Long Beach, **Harbor Breeze boats**, <https://2seewhales.com/>

**Wildlife Learning Center**, Sylmar - **Rescue Center - tours, outreach** <https://wildlifelearningcenter.org/visit-us/onsite-tours/>

## PHYSICAL SCIENCE

**Astro Camp 3-5 day School Camps, Summer Camps**, Idyllwild <https://astrocampschool.org/>

**Caltech Seismo Lab**, Pasadena - **FREE tours on hold/Covid** <http://www.seismolab.caltech.edu/tours.html>

**Chino Basin Water Conservation District** - **workshops, free buses** <https://www.cbwcd.org/339/For-Educators-Schools>

**Columbia Memorial Space Center**, Downey – **in-person fieldtrips/robotics** <https://www.columbiaspacescience.org/programs>

**Disneyland Science Education Labs**, Anaheim - Chemistry, Physics <https://www.disneyyouth.com/programs/education/>

**Fleet Science Center**, San Diego - **tours, workshops** <https://www.fleetscience.org/learn/educators-resource-guide>

**FlightPath Museum & Learning Cntr**, LAX - 90 min tours <https://flightpathlax.com/aviation-museum-los-angeles-field-trips>

**General Atomic Fusion**, San Diego - **tours, outreach, ed materials** <http://fused.gat.com/teacher.html>

**Geology Trips in Southern California** - **list with links** <http://www.shallowky.com/geology/socal/>

**Griffith Observatory**, Los Angeles - **tours, observatory** <http://www.griffithobs.org/>

**Goldstone Deep Space Communications Complex**, Fort Irwin **Radio Astronomy tours** <https://www.gdscc.nasa.gov/>

**Hyperion Water Treatment Plant Environ Learning Cntr**, Playa Del Rey – **On Hold** <http://www.lacitysan.org/elc>

**JPL/NASA Tours**, Pasadena <https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/events/tours/views/index.cfm>

**Knott's Berry Farm Physics Day** <https://www.knotts.com/explore/groups/student-and-youth/physics-day>

**Las Virgenes Municipal Water Dist**, Calabasas – **free tours** <https://www.lvmwd.com/education/k-12-education/schedule-a-field-trip>

**Long Beach Airport** - free **tours** <http://www.longbeach.gov/lgb/community-information/tours/>

**Magic Mountain Physics Day (on Hold)** <https://www.sixflags.com/magicmountain/group-sales/schools-listing>

**March Field Air Museum**, Riverside - <https://www.marchfield.org/education/teaching-resources/>

**Metropolitan Water District** – **FREE BUSES, programs** [https://www1.mwdh2o.com/DocSvcSvcsPubs/Education\\_Site/index.html](https://www1.mwdh2o.com/DocSvcSvcsPubs/Education_Site/index.html)

**Mt. Wilson Observatory**, Angeles Crest Highway <https://www.mtwilson.edu/visiting/>

**NASA/Education Gateway**, Pasadena <http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/education/>

**Northrop Grumman** – Education Resource Center, El Segundo **Outreach, tours, labs**  
<http://www.northropgrumman.com/CorporateResponsibility/CorporateCitizenship/Education/Pages/default.aspx>

**Orange County Sanitation District** Fieldtrip **Tours** - <http://www.ocsd.com/residents/requests/tour-reservation>

**Orange County Water District** Fieldtrip **Tours** - <http://www.ocwd.com/contact-us/book-a-tour/>

**Palomar Observatory** – **Tours (currently closed)** <http://www.astro.caltech.edu/palomar/visitor/tours.html>

**Queen Mary** Fieldtrip **Tours** - <https://queenmary.com/tours/group/>

**ReDiscover Center** **Maker/Engineering projects, materials reuse** <http://www.rediscovercenter.org/>

**San Andreas Fault Tour**, **Palm Springs to mountains** <https://www.red-jeep.com>

**Sanitation Districts** of LA County, variety of tours –**BUS reimbursement program**  
<https://www.lacsd.org/community-outreach/tours-speaker-s-bureau/tours-program>

**Santa Monica Community Recycling Center (school tours)**  
[http://www.smgov.net/Departments/OSE/Categories/Education/Local\\_Field\\_Trip\\_Opportunities.aspx](http://www.smgov.net/Departments/OSE/Categories/Education/Local_Field_Trip_Opportunities.aspx)

**Slime in Space: A Virtual Fieldtrip** - **Video, teacher resources** <https://www.nickcommunity.com/sis>

**Two Bit Circus/ Trash for Teaching** - **hands-on programs, outreach** <https://twobitcircus.org/our-programs/location-programs/>

**UCLA School of Engineering and Applied Science** - **lab tours** <http://www.seasoasa.ucla.edu/tours/>

**Universal Studios**, Burbank - **school workshops** <https://www.universalyouthprograms.com/education-programs/>