

Under normal operating conditions, the DC metro area is ripe with summer events and opportunities for enrichment in Science. All of the museums in the following list have great regular daily exhibits to visit; in addition here are some of the calendars and websites the Middle School Faculty use to find special events with our families. With the possibility that museum closures and event cancelations due to the risk of Covid-19 may continue through the summer, we are including some virtual suggestions as well.

For 6<sup>th</sup> grade who will study Earth's systems and structures some great options might be:

- Events (including virtual opportunities) at Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History (usually free)  
<https://naturalhistory.si.edu/events>
- The Irvine Nature Center  
<https://www.explorenature.org/upcoming-events/>
- Events at the National Aquarium  
<http://aqua.org/visit/baltimore/calendar?date=6%2f2%2f2017&filter=All>

For 7<sup>th</sup> grade who will study Sustainability some great options would include the above places as well as:

- Events at the Smithsonian's National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute (visits and talks are free, but classes, camps, and some events require tickets) <https://nationalzoo.si.edu/>  
Note: the Smithsonian is postponing or canceling all public events, programming and gatherings at least through July 1, 2020. In the meantime, they invite the public to explore the Zoo online by visiting [nationalzoo.si.edu](https://nationalzoo.si.edu) for more online collections, [live animal webcams](#) and [educational resources](#).

For 8<sup>th</sup> grade who will center their study on the Human Body some great options might be:

- The National Museum of Health and Medicine  
<http://www.medicalmuseum.mil/index.cfm?p=media.events.index>
- Events (including virtual opportunities) at the Maryland Science Center (also runs camps and classes)  
<http://www.mdsci.org/events/>

Because of our spiraling curriculum in which every year of Middle School Science explores multiple scientific disciplines, there may be particular events or exhibits at all of the above locations that would interest students. In addition, there are a few event calendars that are not particularly tied to our curricula but often have things that are of interest to our students.

- DC STEM Network calendar  
<https://www.dcstemnetwork.org/calendar/>
- Events at the National Building Museum  
<https://www.nbm.org/>  
Note: ALL PUBLIC PROGRAMMING HAS BEEN CANCELED THROUGH THE END OF SEPTEMBER. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SHARING GOOD NEWS ABOUT OUR REOPENING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
- Events at Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum (usually free)  
<https://airandspace.si.edu/node/51701>  
Note: the Smithsonian is postponing or canceling all public events, programming and gatherings at least through July 1, 2020. In the meantime, explore the Museum's online resources through the [Air and Space Anywhere](#) page and [K-12 Learning Resources](#) portal.
- National Geographic Museum Calendar  
<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/events/>

#### Virtual Opportunities for Enrichment:

- Varsity Tutors Virtual Summer Camps (enrollment is free!)  
<https://www.varsitytutors.com/virtual-summer-camp-catalog>
- Chemistry of Cookies  
[https://www.ted.com/talks/stephanie\\_warren\\_the\\_chemistry\\_of\\_cookies?language=en#t-194](https://www.ted.com/talks/stephanie_warren_the_chemistry_of_cookies?language=en#t-194)
- Chemical Bonds  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QXT4OVM4vXI>
- Molecules  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C0Qaf-UJ2XQ>
- Gregor Mendel  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=574&v=GTiOETaZg4w&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=574&v=GTiOETaZg4w&feature=emb_logo)