



Traveling Science Workshops | 2024-2025 Program Listing

Highly skilled, dynamic educators inspire students with fun, hands-on STEM workshops delivered in the classroom. Workshops are convenient, affordable, and support the Massachusetts Science and Technology/Engineering standards for PreK-8. Students observe, raise questions, investigate, problem-solve, give evidence, and discuss their findings throughout these highly engrossing experiences. Teachers share the experience along with their students, and receive FREE follow-up topic guides with ideas for furthering exploration.

Questions? Please contact Carly Troccoli, Scheduling Manager, at 978-264-4200 ext. 121 or ctroccoli@discoveryvacton.org.

Bubbles (Grades PreK-2)

How long does a bubble really last? What color is a bubble? Can you predict when a bubble will pop? Students challenge what they think they know about bubbles as they make new observations, pose questions, investigate, and discuss their findings.

Workshop length: 45 minutes

MA STE Standards: PreK-PS1-3(MA)

Chemistry Lab (Grades 3-6)

Colorful chemical reactions spark creative scientific exploration, building understanding as students explore safely with familiar, everyday chemicals. Students discover the difference between a physical and chemical reaction while they change and monitor the pH of various household liquids.

Workshop length: 45 minutes

MA STE Standards: 5-PS1-3, 5-PS1-4

Dinosaurs (Grades PreK-2)

Acting as paleontologists, students practice simple tool identification and usage as they excavate from a mock dig site, unearthing fossils and sharing their finds. Comparing the bodies of different dinosaurs and between parent and offspring builds an understanding of differences and similarities, heredity and variation. *Multiple sessions must be held in one room.*

Workshop length: 45 minutes

*MA STE Standards: PreK-LS1-1(MA),
PreK-LS1-2(MA), PreK-LS1-3(MA),
PreK-LS3-1(MA), 1-LS1-1, 1-LS1-2, 1-LS3-1*

Earth Science (Grades 3-6)

Students learn how rock formation and erosion are involved in creating new landforms. By handling and comparing specimens, constructing special sedimentation chambers, and making crystal cards, students build evidence for how these systems work. *Requires direct access to running water. Multiple sessions must be held in one room.*

Workshop length: 45 minutes

*MA STE Standards: 4-ESS1-1, 4-ESS2-1,
5-PS1-3*

Electromagnetism (Grades 3-6)

Students practice science and apply math skills as they discover the connection between magnetic and electrical energy. Students review basic magnetism and work in teams to build a simple electromagnet, test its strength, and graph the results.

Workshop length: 45 minutes

MA STE Standards: 3-PS2-3

Flight (Grades 3-8)

What makes a flying object fly? Student engineers develop an understanding of the properties of flight and the multiple forces at play as they fold, blow, and throw flying contraptions of their own design.

Workshop length: 45 minutes

MA STE Standards: 3-PS2-1, 3.3-5-ETS1-1, 3.3-5-ETS1-2

Force & Magnetism (Grade 3)

Students review the basics of force and motion and explore ideas of balanced and unbalanced forces while working with and learning about magnetic force. Applying what they learn, students construct an original moving toy of their own design that uses the force of magnetism to operate.

Multiple sessions must be held in one room.

Workshop length: 60 minutes

MA STE Standards: 3-PS2-3, 3-PS2-4, 3.3-5-ETS1-1, 3.3-5-ETS1-2

Force & Motion (Grades PreK-3)

What makes an object move? Can we control the movement? Does the strength of a push or pull have an effect? How about the direction of the push or pull? What happens when objects move past each other or collide? Students explore concepts of force and motion while interacting with a variety of toys, balls, and vehicles.

Multiple sessions must be held in one room.

Workshop length: 45 minutes PreK, 60 minutes K-3

MA STE Standards: PreK-PS2-1(MA), K-PS2-1, 1.K-2-ETS1-2, 2-PS3-1(MA), 3-PS2-1, 3.3-5-ETS1-1, 3.3-5-ETS1-2

Keeping Cool: Green Engineering

(Grades 3-8)

Teams of student scientists and engineers work together on a hands-on, group challenge in this fantastical adventure. They must think creatively to develop and test possible solutions to an insulation design problem, discovering how design and engineering choices relate to energy conservation. *Multiple sessions must be held in one room.*

Workshop length: 60 minutes

MA STE Standards: 2-PS1-2, 3-ESS3-1, 3.3-5-ETS1-1, 3.3-5-ETS1-4(MA), 4-ESS3-1, 4.3-5-ETS1-3, 4.3-5-ETS1-5(MA), 5-ESS3-1

Light & Color (Grades K-3)

Students discover properties of light and color using flashlights, prisms, and colored acetates. Spinning tops mix color before their eyes and conducting chromatography experiments with coffee filters and pens lets them observe the separation of color in ink. *Workshop length: 45 minutes*

MA STE Standards: General Science and Engineering Practices supported.

Light & Lasers (Grades 1-8)

As students compare white light and laser light they identify key properties including how light must be reflected in order to be seen. Students work with flashlights, prisms, lenses, and a variety of materials that block, reflect, or allow light to pass through.

Workshop length: 45 minutes

MASTE Standards: 1-PS4-3, 4-PS3-2, 4-PS4-2

Liquids & Solids (Grades PreK-K)

Students engage in a fun chilly exploration, make observations, and ask questions as they investigate the role temperature plays in causing materials to change from solid to liquid or liquid to solid. *Multiple sessions must be held in one room.*

Workshop length: 45 minutes PreK, 60 minutes K

MA STE Standards: PreK-PS1-1(MA), K-PS1-1(MA), K-PS3-1, K-PS3-2

Magnets (Grades K-3)

Students explore how distance, orientation, size and strength impact the behavior of magnets. They make and take home a magnetic field viewing chamber to visualize the force around a magnet, and receive special magnets to continue their exploration at home.

Workshop length: 45 minutes

MA STE Standards: 3-PS2-3

Microscopes & Magnification (Grades 3-6)

Students explore the history and technology of the microscope as they use simple water lenses to uncover fascinating properties of light and optics. Hand-held microscopes set the room abuzz as up-close inspection reveals a microscopic universe never before seen! *Workshop length: 45 minutes*

MA STE Standards: General Science and Engineering Practices supported

Physical Changes of Matter I (Grades 2-5)

Investigating the physical properties of solids, liquids, and gases has never been so much fun! In this most popular workshop, dry ice and liquid nitrogen make learning the phase changes very dramatic as together we change liquid water to gas, shatter flowers and rubber bands, use a banana as a hammer, and even shrink solid metal in just a few seconds.

Workshop length: 45 minutes

MA STE Standards: 2-PS1-4, 5-PS1-1

Physical Changes of Matter II (Grades 5-8)

PCM II adds student exploration stations to the general introductory workshop, PCM I. Students will do several hands-on dry ice investigations. *Multiple workshops must be held in the same room with warm running water accessible. We also require the full participation of the classroom teacher and at least two parent or school volunteers during each workshop.*

Workshop length: 60 minutes

MA STE Standards: 5-PS1-1

Simple Machines Technology (Grades 3-6)

Teams of students work together on challenges that show how simple machines technology, specifically the lever, benefits humans. Children delight in helping one child lift the teacher without straining a muscle. Engineering their own team levers, they see and feel how a lever helps accomplish work using mechanical advantage. *Multiple workshops must be held in one room.*

Workshop length: 60 minutes

MA STE Standards: General Science and Engineering Practices supported

Sound (Grades K-5)

Plunging a vibrating tuning fork into a bowl of water creates quite a spray as students learn that sound is vibration. Students actively engage in exploring sound, creating unique sound makers with household materials.

Workshop length: 45 minutes

MA STE Standards: PreK-PS2-1(MA), PreK-PS4-1(MA), 1-PS4-1, 1-PS4-4, 1.K-2-ETS1-1, 4-PS4-1

Sound for PreK (Grade PreK)

Sound, can you hear it? Is it loud? Is it soft? What makes sound? Preschool students will delight in exploring the world of sound as they make sound toys and learn how to control pitch and volume. *Multiple sessions must be held in one room.*

Workshop length: 45 minutes

MA STE Standards: PreK-PS2-1(MA), PreK-PS4-1(MA)

Sound Waves (Grade 4)

Students explore simple wave models while delving into the science of sound and how it travels. This is an adaptation of our original Sound workshop that specifically supports the Grade 4 STE standards for Waves and Their Applications in Technologies for Information Transfer. *Multiple sessions must be held in one room.*

Workshop length: 60 minutes

MA STE Standards: 4-PS4-1, 4-PS4-3

Static Electricity (Grades 1-4)

Snap, crackle, pop are just a few of the sounds created in this hair-raising experience. Students experiment with how to create static electricity with a variety of household materials and are introduced to an extraordinary machine that allows them to safely feel the effects of moving electrons!

Workshop length: 45 minutes

MA STE Standards: General Science and Engineering Practices supported

Weather (Grades PreK-3)

Young meteorologists understand the important role weather plays in daily life as they engage in the practice of science and engineering by developing tools for forecasting and observing day-to-day changes and seasonal patterns over time.

Multiple sessions must be held in one room.

Workshop length: 45 minutes PreK, 60 minutes K-3

MA STE Standards: PreK-ESS2-3(MA), PreK- ESS2-4(MA), PreK-ESS2-5(MA), PreK-ESS2-6(MA), K-ESS2-1, K-ESS3-2, K-PS3-1, 1-ESS1-2

Weather & Climate (Grade 3)

Using weather maps and historical data, groups of meteorologists work together to describe and predict typical weather for a given region at a particular time of the year. Sharing their findings, each group builds an appreciation for how weather conditions vary by region. Student teams then apply their new knowledge as they engineer structures to withstand typical weather for a given region. *Multiple sessions must be held in one room.*

Workshop length: 60 minutes

MA STE Standards :3-ESS2-1, 3-ESS2-2, 3-ESS3-1, 3.3-5-ETS1-1, 3.3-5-ETS1-2, 3.3-5- ETS1-4(MA)

Scheduling Requirements

In-person workshops are 45 or 60 minutes long. Virtual workshops are 30 or 40 minutes long.

Up to five 45-minute workshops or four 60-minute workshops (or a combination) may be presented at one school in a single day.

Maximum group size:

Preschool/PreK: 18
Elementary: 25

2024-2025 Pricing: In-Person

\$440 for one 45-minute workshop, \$105 for each additional workshop held on the same day (maximum of 5 workshops per day).

\$500 for one 60-minute workshop, \$125 for each additional workshop held on the same day (maximum of 4 workshops per day).

Virtual workshops are \$275 per workshop.

Fees

All workshops include an extra fee for materials; most are **\$43 per class**. The exceptions are as follows:

\$58 per class: Earth Science, Electromagnetism, Force & Magnetism, Magnets, Weather

\$255 per day of workshops: Physical Changes of Matter I & II

Mileage fees may also apply.

Interested in saving money? Check out our Package Deals:

Package One: Schedule two or more grades' Traveling Science Workshops to take place in the first 4 months of the school year, between September and December, and save 20%!

Package Two: Schedule a Traveling Science Workshop (any time), and a Field Trip to the Museum (between September and March of the school year) for the same grade, or different grades, and receive a 20% discount on both the workshop program fees *and* the Field Trip admission.

Package Three: Schedule a multi-age "buddy" Field Trip for two or more grades, and receive a 20% discount on fees for all. Get the discount and all the benefits of learning together!

If you have questions, would like help selecting the best programs to support specific grade level standards, or are ready to schedule workshops, contact Carly Troccoli, Scheduling Manager, at 978-264-4200 ext. 121 or ctroccoli@discoveryacton.org. If you need other assistance, contact Kathie Watt, Assistant Director of School Programs, at 978-264-4200 ext. 122 or kwatt@discoveryacton.org.



177 Main Street · Acton, MA 01720 · 978-264-4200 · www.discoveryacton.org