Career education lays the ground work for future career development. It helps students learn about their interests, aptitudes, and skills, and develops a positive attitude toward work. Thanksgiving Point’s Career Exploration Experiences give students an in-depth look at a variety of careers. These field trips are a great option as a fulfillment of the College and Career Awareness Work Based requirements.

- Three, 50-minute hands-on experiences that explore various careers
- For 6th–8th grades
- $8 per student
- 90 students maximum*
- One chaperone required for every 10 students. Additional adults will be charged full venue admission price.
- Field trip starts at 10:00 am and ends at 1:00 pm
- Venue admission is not included in the cost. Admission may be purchased separately for $2 per student. Admission must be paid in a single transaction by the teacher at the venue

*Please contact Thanksgiving Point Reservations if you have more than 90 students
FOOD, FARM, FOSSILS

• **FOOD SCIENTIST:** How does chemistry inform the food that we eat? Students will learn how food scientists address food-related issues, followed by a molecular gastronomy activity.

• **LARGE ANIMAL VETERINARIAN:** With a large demand in this field, students will explore various common practices such as suturing a banana, aging skulls based on their teeth, and taking a goat’s heartbeat.

• **PALEONTOLOGIST/MUSEUM TECHNICIAN:** How do we know what past environments looked like? Students will experience the steps a paleontologist goes through when they discover a set of fossil remains and work together as a team to learn what they have uncovered.

GREEN CAREERS

• **AGRONOMIST:** How can we harness the power of plants to create alternative energy sources? Students will plan and carry out an investigation exploring the complexities of converting plant material to fuel.

• **ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER:** Where does our drinking water come from? What are possible contaminants of our water sources? Students will work in teams to design, build, and test a prototype that physically and chemically cleans a sample of “dirty” water.

• **SUSTAINABILITY CONSULTANT:** Businesses everywhere are taking steps to become more environmentally friendly. Students will learn how to help with this transition by participating in a waste analysis, discussing how buildings, like the Museum of Natural Curiosity, can become LEED certified, and engaging in an upcycling project.

STEM CAREERS

• **ATMOSPHERIC SCIENTIST:** Can air be cleaned? Discover the answer as students explore how air quality is analyzed, the impact storms have, and how scientists use this information to predict the weather.

• **FORENSIC SCIENTIST:** How is a crime solved? Students will investigate the growing field of forensic science and experience the methods used to collect, analyze, and use evidence to solve a crime.

• **ROBOTICS ENGINEER:** How can bio-mechanics in nature be applied to modern robotics engineering? Students will follow the engineering process as they design and build robotic prototypes that can perform a simple task.

SIGN-UP INFO

ThanksgivingPoint.org/Education/Educators/middle-school-field-trip-form

*For questions, contact Taylor Porter at tporter@thanksgivingpoint.org or 801.766.5018*