

K-12 Distance Learning Options

Grand Rapids Public Museum

Free online resources

- [Virtual Discovery Kits](#) – Grades 3+; Ready to go off the shelf
- [Virtual Scavenger Hunts](#) – Grades 5+; Ready to go off the shelf
- [Digital Collections](#) – Digital records of over 250,000 artifacts and scientific specimens. [See this slide for examples of ways it can be used](#)
 - Students and teachers can create their own virtual galleries/exhibits. [Instructions](#)
 - [Teacher Gallery](#) – Compilation of lessons incorporating items from the collections, as well as descriptions of projects local schools have completed.

Contact groups@grpm.org for more information about how your classroom can leverage the digital collections or complete project work that can be published to the community.

- **Virtual Exhibit Tours** - 5 to 10-minute videos – all ages – Will be [posted here](#) by the end of September.
 - *Streets of Old Grand Rapids*
 - *West Michigan Habitats*
 - *Newcomers: The People of this Place*
 - *Anishinabek: The People of this Place*
 - Behind the scenes at CARC
- Planetarium presentations - [Descriptions](#) can be found here; options for K-12; free with registration. Contact groups@grpm.org to receive access.
 - Full-length feature planetarium presentations

Facilitated Virtual Learning - interactive via Zoom or Google Meet. Presentations include objects, prompts, photos and videos. **Cost: \$100 per program**

- *Virtual Guided Programs – 30-45 minutes. Descriptions of learning objectives for each program can be found at the [K-12 Schools page](#)*
 - Discover: Grand Rapids Then & Now - Grades K-3
 - CARC Tour - Grades K-12
 - Fur Trader - Grades 2-5
 - Discover: The First People of this Place (K-3)
 - Discover: The First People of this Place (4-8)
 - Discover: West Michigan's Newcomers - Grades 4-8
 - Share: Habitats (Grades K-3)

- Investigate: Plant & Animal Adaptations - Grades 3-8
- [Virtual Planetarium Presentations](#) – 30-45 minutes. All ages
 - Under Starlit Skies
 - Tour the Solar System
 - To the Moon and Beyond
- To schedule a facilitated virtual program, submit a [reservation request form](#).

Classroom Loan Resources

- [Discovery Kit Loan Program](#) - physical one-week loan with supplemental curriculum and activity guides. \$25 fee, waived for schools upon request. Grades K-8. Submit [reservation request form](#). Themes available are: Anishinabe Culture, Foodways, Fossils, Hats, Holiday Traditions, Jewelry, Music, Newcomers, Numismatics, Space Exploration, Zoology.

Van Andel Education Institute

Blue Apple Projects: 10 ready-made PBL units that engage students in making the world a better place while teaching content standards and success skills such as critical thinking, creativity, perseverance and more.

Projects include:

- Complete lesson plans and supplies (including modifications for virtual or blended learning environments)
- Connections to real-world experts and influencers
- Integration of cross-curricular content
- Opportunities to collaborate with other classrooms doing the same project

[Videos and background info](#)

Cost: \$125 per project (scholarships available)

Sample Project Overviews:

[Germs](#)

[Can 4th graders inspire change in public policy?](#)

Flex PD: 75+ professional development workshops that can be mixed and matched to meet specific interests and needs of K-12 teachers/administrators. Sample topics include project-based learning, inquiry-based science, creative and critical thinking, differentiated instruction and more.

[Complete list of PD offerings](#)

Cost: \$500 per 1-hour session (up to 40 teachers)

John Ball Zoo

[Zoo Insider Videos](#) - short videos highlighting a variety of zoo exhibits, animals, a vet hospital tour, as well as nature observation and ethogram activities for students to do in their own yard. Grade level: K-12, depending on video/activity.

[Distance Learning](#) - 30-40 minute live virtual programs offered by zoo educators. STEM classes incorporate follow-up design projects. Exhibit Design and Enrichment Design are geared toward middle to high school students, but can be adjusted for younger students. The live program with zoo educators highlights the engineering design process and components to think of when designing for animals. Students use a printable guide to create their own 3-D or 2-D designs. Teachers can choose to use this as a one-time class or build it into a project. Materials are shared with teachers ahead of time.

Cost: \$75