

# Distance Learning

## Education Programs



Virginia Museum of  
NATURAL HISTORY

**D**istance learning programs bring your students to the museum without ever having to leave their seats! Through the use of two-way video your class will join museum educators as we explore Virginia's natural heritage and uncover its rich biological and geological history. Together, with the use of videoconferencing and interactive activities, we will spark imagination, enhance curricula, and support Virginia and national educational standards. Distance learning programs can be developed and adjusted to meet your needs. Education staff will work with you to establish your videoconferencing connection in advance. Let us know how we can connect with you!

Email [discover@vmnh.virginia.gov](mailto:discover@vmnh.virginia.gov) or call  
(276) 634-4187 to find out more.



21 Starling Avenue, Martinsville, VA 24112 • 276-634-4141 • [www.vmnh.net](http://www.vmnh.net)

**Fees:**

\$90 for one program	\$180 for one program with VMNH staff onsite
\$135 for two programs	\$270 for two programs with VMNH staff onsite
\$170 for three programs	\$340 for three programs with VMNH staff onsite
\$210 for four programs	\$400 for four programs with VMNH staff onsite

**All programs are tailored to specific standards of learning based on your grade level. Contact us for more information at 276-634-4187 or email [discover@vmnh.virginia.gov](mailto:discover@vmnh.virginia.gov).**

### ***Dawn of the Dinosaurs***

Did you know no dinosaur bones have been found in Virginia? Join educators as we examine fossils from the Age of the Dinosaurs and look at characteristics and adaptations. This program teaches students about dinosaurs while prompting them to draw conclusions based on visual evidence.

### ***Unsolved Mysteries***

Why would the fossils of marine animals and land mammals from long ago all be deposited in the same place? With VMNH educators, students will view fossils from an active dig site along the Fall Line north of Richmond. We will look at a re-creation of a bone bed and hypothesize what may have happened along this ancient shoreline to cause the deaths of such a wide variety of animals. By examining fossil evidence and understanding how Earth's surface changes over time, students will explore scientific explanation of this location 14 million years ago.

### ***Walking Among Giants***

Travel back in time 14,000 years to the last Ice Age — a time when muskox, mastodons, mammoths, and giant ground sloths lived in Virginia. By examining casts of bones, teeth, footprints, and real fossils we will explore how the behavioral and physical adaptations of these animals helped them to survive in the not too distant climatic past.

### ***Trash to Treasure***

Don't miss out on this unique opportunity for students to explore archaeology. By examining artifacts such as pottery pieces, animal bones, and projectile points, students will be able to make conclusions about American Indian culture both before and after European contact. Led by VMNH education staff, students will better understand how trash of past civilizations can be a valuable tool for archaeologists.

### ***The Earth as We Know it***

Join educators for an exciting investigation of the forces that shape the world. With models and demonstrations, students will make connections between how the energy trapped inside the earth has moved continents and has shaped the earth's surface over time.

### ***The Circle of Life***

By investigating the relationships among organisms and looking at examples of producers, consumers, and decomposers, students will understand the transfer of energy that occurs among all living things and the fundamental processes it fuels. Students will have an opportunity to see the museum's live turtles, snakes, or Madagascar Hissing Cockroaches in action!

### ***Classification: 101***

Amidst specimens from the African Savanna, students will follow educators on a journey through our spectacular African mammal collection. Step into the shoes of a scientist by using observable characteristics as a basis for species classification. By examining the physical characteristics of different mammals, students will understand more about species identification, variation, and adaptations. Students will have an opportunity to see the museum's live turtles, snakes, or Madagascar Hissing Cockroaches in action!