



MUSEUM OF ARTS & SCIENCES
In Association with the Smithsonian Institution

Summer Learning Institute Program Course Outline

Paleontology Expert

Calling all young adventurers and aspiring paleontologists. Immerse yourself in the world of dinosaurs, fossils, and the mysteries of Earth's prehistoric past. Junior Paleontologists will have an exciting hands-on opportunity with authentic prehistoric specimens and a variety of dinosaurs reproductions from the Museum's collection. Experience working with tools of real paleontologist, learn about historic discoveries, and find out what's really going on in the world of the fossil hunter.

All program classes are organized to address the following aspects:

- STEM/STEAM Education.
- Cultivate an interest in Art, Science, and History.
- Continued knowledge and comprehension regarding Volusia County School Standards.
- Develop interpersonal skills such as teamwork and problem solving.
- Foster curiosity and imagination of the world around us.

Pre-requisites: None

Date: June 10-14

Software/Materials/Books/Media: Handouts and materials provided in class.

Exhibits/Galleries that correspond with camp:

- Florida Prehistory Gallery
- *Megalodon: The Largest Shark That Ever Lived* (Presented by Wagner the Lawyer Dude)
- African Gallery
- Cuban Gallery

Course Objectives:

Students will:

- Become familiar with what defines a fossil, and how they are formed.
- Learn how paleontology is conducted in the field, and what a paleontologist does.
- Learn about different geologic periods of the Earth with examples of organisms that lived during those periods.
- Connect the *Megalodon: The Largest Shark That Ever Lived* Exhibition to its paleontology roots.

5 Day Course Outline Example:

Schedules must consider, lunch time, snack time, free play, and lessons in the gallery. All movies/shows must be approved by MOAS staff prior to viewing.

- Day One: Overview of what paleontology is, who paleontologists are, and brief geologic history of Earth. Art/craft activities.
- Day Two: Lessons on Ordovician, Devonian, and Permian periods with a relating art/craft activity.
- Day Three: Mesozoic overview outlining Triassic, Jurassic, and Cretaceous periods. During this day or the next a trip to the *Megalodon: The Largest Shark That Ever Lived* Exhibition would be recommended. Art/Craft activities.
- Day Four: Cenozoic overview relating to Pleistocene period and early mammalian megafauna. During this day a trip to the Florida Prehistory Gallery would be necessary for campers to see fossils of early Pleistocene mammals native to Florida. Art/craft activities.
- Day Five: Wrap up day, art/craft activities.

Assessment:

Student's ability to demonstrate the following:

1= Below Expected Outcome

3= Meets Expected Outcome

5=Exceeds Expected Outcome

The Student Has:	1	2	3	4	5
Demonstrated knowledge of paleontology and how to identify fossils.					
Demonstrated an understanding of Earth's geologic history.					
Demonstrated a desire for continued learning.					