



Roper Mountain



A 402 Roper Mountain Road
Greenville, SC 29615

P 864.355.8900

RoperMountain.org



2026 – 2027 Educator's Directory

Standards Based Learning Labs in Science and Social Studies

Priority registration deadline for on-site learning labs is August 21, 2026



ROPER MOUNTAIN SCIENCE CENTER

Welcome!

If you want to ignite curiosity and give your students the best field trip possible, then we have an experience for you! Hands-on learning labs, unique facilities, and amazing educators will bring learning to life. Check out the many offerings we have in this directory.

In addition to your trip to the Mountain, you can connect with us multiple times over the course of the year through “[Live From Roper](#)” virtual lessons and [Science On Wheels](#). No matter if it is at Roper Mountain or at your school, students will benefit from engaging lessons.

We look forward to providing an exceptional experience and setting that will give you and your students a memorable and standards-based field trip that cannot be duplicated anywhere else.

Michael Weeks
Director

A 402 Roper Mountain Road
Greenville, SC 29615

P 864.355.8900

RoperMountain.org





ROPER MOUNTAIN SCIENCE CENTER

Roper Mountain is an educational facility of Greenville County Schools, South Carolina. This 60 acre complex is dedicated to providing educational opportunities that excite and motivate students and teachers through immersive hands-on learning labs. The Mountain's educators also travel to schools for outreach programs in science, as well. Educational programs for the family are offered through Friday night Starry Nights planetarium shows, Afternoon Explorations and special events throughout the year.

Visit RoperMountain.org for information about all of our services, or email your scheduling questions to our Education Office:

abuckmaster@greenville.k12.sc.us (elementary) or

liphilli@greenville.k12.sc.us (middle).

Standards-Based Learning Labs

Learning labs held at both the center and in schools are designed to support the South Carolina Curriculum Standards in science and social studies.

How To Schedule On-Site Field Trips

- Teachers must submit a request form by the priority deadline of **August 21, 2026. We will accept registrations after priority deadline expires, however they will be scheduled last.**
- Please fill out forms for each teacher and class (ex. 6 Classes = 3 Forms).
- All teachers on a grade-level should submit requests together if they want to be scheduled together (if possible). Include Special Education classes if needed.
- We use fillable PDF registration. Registration forms can be submitted electronically or scanned and emailed to our Scheduling Office at abuckmaster@greenville.k12.sc.us for elementary and liphilli@greenville.k12.sc.us for middle school.
- Admission for learning labs is free for Greenville County Public, Private, and Home School students and teachers (except for special engagement learning labs, outreach and virtual field trips). For students outside Greenville County and for charter schools, see the fees page (Page 4).
- **Lunches are available during your visit. Our GCS FANS (Food and Nutrition Services) Connections Café provides school meals at no charge for students. Adults meals may be purchased. GCS teachers may use their MySchool Bucks account for café purchases. For all other purchases, cash is required. An ATM is available onsite for your convenience. Lunch for adults is included in the fee for schools outside Greenville County.** [Click here](#) for the menu and pricing.
For questions about your meal, contact Amanda Perez at aperez@greenville.k12.sc.us or 864.355.0806.
- For elementary schools, rank the lesson you would like to attend. Providing alternates will allow us more opportunity to find a date that will work for you.
- For middle schools, choose the programs you would like to attend.
- 4th, 6th and 7th grade classes may request a second visit to Roper Mountain. **Please submit a separate form for a second visit request.** All other grades may schedule one on-site visit per year, but grades 1-5 encouraged to schedule as many **"Live from Roper"** virtual lessons as they would like.



Roper Mountain

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PLANNING YOUR VISIT

Confirming Your Visit

When your scheduling form is received, you will receive an acknowledgement email. When our scheduler has a programming date to offer, you will receive another email with the details. **Please note:** if your preferred time to visit is spring semester, you will not receive an offered date for several months after your acknowledgement. We will be working on filling fall dates before we move into the spring.

When your offer is sent, please respond to that email as quickly as possible to confirm your date, or request an alternate. If you are sharing a bus with other teachers, please be sure to communicate and make sure the date works for everyone.

After we have entered your confirmed date into our system, you will receive a FIELD TRIP CONFIRMATION letter with detailed dates, times and learning labs scheduled. You will also receive a lunch menu and a map of our facilities. Please be sure the number of students in your group is accurate, or contact your scheduler if you need to make any changes.

Planning and previsit information, inclement weather policy and a map of Roper Mountain Science Center may be accessed at RoperMountain.org.

Schedule Your Bus

After obtaining permission for the field trip, it is important that you schedule a bus as soon as possible. RMSC does NOT schedule buses.

Reminder Notice

Prior to your visit, you will receive emails from Roper Mountain staff: one to confirm your final attendance numbers and a second with instructions for submitting your lunch orders. Please be sure to respond to these emails as quickly as possible.

Arrival

Most learning labs begin at 9:30am. Please arrive 15 minutes before the learning lab starting time. Note: Some learning lab times may vary.

Picnicking and Lunches

Lunches are available during your visit. Our GCS FANS (Food and Nutrition Services) Connections Café provides school meals at no charge for students. Adults meals may be purchased. GCS teachers may use their MySchool Bucks account for café purchases. For all other purchases, cash is required. An ATM is available onsite for your convenience. Lunch for adults is included in the fee for schools outside Greenville County.

[Click here](#) for the menu and pricing.

For questions about your meal, contact Amanda Perez at aperez@greenville.k12.sc.us or 864.355.0806.

Cancellation

For same day cancellations, please contact your scheduler by phone at 864-355-8967 for elementary or 864-355-8925 for middle schools.

For future date cancellations, please email Amy Buckmaster (elementary) at abuckmaster@greenville.k12.sc.us or Lisa Phillips (middle) at liphilli@greenville.k12.sc.us.

We will attempt to reschedule your visit, but it may not be possible.

Chaperones

We request that teachers bring no more than **two chaperones** per class. No additional students or siblings (including toddlers or babies in wraps or strollers) not in the registered class may accompany chaperones. Chaperones should check in at your school for their credentials. RMSC is not able to check in your chaperones at our location.

Pre-visit

The educational value of your visit will be improved if you prepare your students in advance. We recommend you do the following:

- Explain the purpose of the field trip to students
- Describe the schedule of activities for the day.
- Review appropriate vocabulary.
- Utilize "Live from Roper" lessons as pre/post virtual visits.

Continued on next page.



PLANNING YOUR VISIT

Continued from previous page.

Class Size

Learning Labs: minimum of 12, maximum of 27 students, plus 1 teacher and 2 chaperones

Special Education/Challenge Classes

All learning labs are available to all students in the grade levels shown in the guide. To assist our instructors in preparing for your class, please note the grade level at which your students work, as well as any special needs they may require.

Home Schools: Guidelines for Scheduling

Students must be **age and grade appropriate** (no siblings or younger children, including toddlers or babies in wraps or strollers). Individual home schools must request a visit as a class through the **home school association** of which they are members. Home school association classes must have a minimum of 12 students and no more than 27 students per grade level. **We allow 1 teacher and 2 chaperones per class.** The home school association's teacher is responsible for coordinating the field trip and supervision of all students. Requests are subject to the deadline listed in this guide. The center cannot accept requests from individual home school parents, nor can we be responsible for organizing a class made up of home school students. Home schools who are members of associations outside of Greenville County will be charged the learning lab costs. We are unable to provide programming for multi-age groups in our individual learning labs for elementary ages. All classes must meet the minimum standards above. For middle schools, you may combine your students in grades 6, 7 and 8 for Planetarium/Assembly combination programs.

Roper Mountain Science Center Learning Lab Costs

Greenville County Public Schools — FREE

Public, Private, and Home School Associations
Learning Labs — Free

Greenville County Charter Schools

Learning Labs — \$15 per student, lunch included
Middle School Assembly Combo — \$12 per student, lunch included

Schools Outside of Greenville County

Learning Labs — \$15 per student, lunch included
Middle School Assembly Combo — \$12 per student, lunch included

All Teachers & Chaperones — FREE

Schools will be invoiced on the day of their visit. The center reserves the right to ask school classes outside of Greenville County to post a deposit for their scheduled learning labs. Deposits are refundable up to 20 business days before the visit.

**We do not accept checks or credit card payments on the day of your trip.
Your school will be invoiced AFTER your visit.**

We CANNOT accept credit card payments over the telephone.

Contact Information

Education Office

864.355.8967 for elementary
or 864.355.8925 for middle school

Address

402 Roper Mountain Road
Greenville, SC 29615

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1ST



DID YOU KNOW?

There are new
1st grade
offerings of
Live from Roper
and Science
on Wheels

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FIRST GRADE

Adventure Day (April & May Only)

This 3-part rotation will move around to different parts of Roper Mountain in order to provide students with an exciting overview of the first grade science standards. Students will enjoy a Planetarium show, Auditorium live demonstration and either a visit to the Living History Farm, Environmental Science Building or Symmes Hall to explore light & Sound..

SPACE LIMITED

Your action packed adventure day will include:

WOW Science

Hipp Auditorium — 35 Minutes

Our science show extravaganza will highlight many first grade science standards. Be dazzled by our sound and light demonstrations—lasers, mirrors, tuning forks and soaring ping pong balls—we have them all! Marvel at animals and their offspring! Students will leave inspired and excited about science!

Science Standards: 1-PS4-1, 1-PS4-2, 1-PS4-3, 1-LS1-2, 1-LS3-1

AND

Magic Tree House: Space Mission

Hooper Planetarium and Giant Dome Theater— 45 Minutes

Peek into the tree house and follow Jack and Annie on an exciting adventure as they meet an astronomer and an astronaut who guide them along a fun-filled journey to discover the secrets of the Sun, Moon, planets and more.

Science Standards: 1-ESS1-1

AND 1 OF THE FOLLOWING 3 DISCOVERY LESSONS

Farm Discovery

Living History Farm — 60 Minutes

Join us for a fun chicken business opportunity as we observe patterns in our chickens' behavior that benefit their offspring and how most young are like, but not exactly like, their parents. In our gardens and historic buildings we will explore goods and services over time while using our math skills to determine if our "chicken business" will be a success.

Science Standards: 1-LS1-2, 1-LS3-1 Social Studies: 1.E.2

OR

Animal & Nature Discovery

Environmental Science Building — 60 Minutes

Animals and plants have the coolest super powers! Using live animals, students will learn how animals use their bodies and powers to help them survive, grow, and meet their needs. Students will also learn about biomimicry through real life examples of how humans copy nature. Using engineering practices, students will design and test flight solutions, inspired by plant and animal structures, in our wind tunnels..

Science Standard: 1-LS1-1

OR

Light & Sound Discovery

Symmes Hall of Science — 60 Minutes

Students work in pairs to carry out scientific investigations to improve the pretend city of Sunnyville. In our sound lesson, students test materials with a special vibrating speaker to decide which items best amplify the sound. In the light lesson, students use their eyes, a flashlight, and a special Lego light sensor to test if light passes through different objects and then compare and contrast these methods of measuring transparency.

Science Standard: 1-PS4-1

CLICK HERE FOR REGISTRATION FORM

2ND



SECOND GRADE

Second Grade Explorations

An exciting day of learning awaits your students as they explore multiple immersive lessons! Besides taking part in two different 45-minute learning lab pairings of your choosing, students will also experience an engaging planetarium presentation. 9:30am - 1:00pm.

Planetarium Show

The Stellars – Mission Green

What do plants need to live? Join Imani, Aki, and John, three friends from an alien solar system, to find out! While on a space exploration system, they distractedly neglect their onboard chores and their ship crashes on an unknown planet: Earth. With their onboard forest in trouble, they need your students' help! This fun and fast-paced planetarium show blends science, exploration, and teamwork. From dodging a bear to fixing a life-support system, students will learn about ecosystems, plant care, and the power of cooperation – all while saving an alien forest!

Science Standards: 2-LS2-1, 2-LS2-2, 2-LS4-1

Along with the planetarium show,
choose one of the following three options:

Option A (see lab descriptions on following page)

Erosion Commotion

AND

Animal Explorations

Option B (see lab descriptions on following page)

Surviving In the Wild

AND

Nature Quest

Option C (see lab descriptions on following page)

Our Home: Then & Now

AND

Our Farm: Then & Now

Continued on next page.

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SECOND GRADE

Continued from previous page.

Along with the “The Stellars” planetarium show, choose one of the following three options:

Option A - Hall of Environmental Science or Harrison Hall of Natural Science

Erosion Commotion

Using stream tables, students will make it rain and then flood to observe how water changes the shape of the land and causes erosion commotion to a neighborhood community. After observing the rain events, teams will need to engineer solutions to prevent the neighborhood from washing away.

Science Standard: 2-ESS2-1

Animal Explorations

Students will compare the diversity of animals that live in our pond and forest habitats on Roper Mountain, such as frogs, salamanders, insects, and snakes. By observing the structures of live animals, students can then infer how the structures help them function and survive in certain habitats.

Science Standard: 2-LS4-1

Option B - Harrison Hall of Natural Science Surviving In the Wild

From the mountains to the sea, students will explore biodiversity from around the world to discover how animals survive in their awesome habitats.

Science Standard: 2-LS4-1

Nature Quest

Students will enjoy a guided nature walk through different environments to discover how animals and plants depend upon their habitats to survive. Emphasis will be placed on diversity of life found in land and in the water.

Science Standard: 2-LS4-1

(NOTE: in the event of inclement weather and in winter, students will remain indoors and explore different habitats in Harrison Hall including the Marine Lab and/or the Rainforest.)

Option C - Living History Farm Our Home: Then & Now

Explore change over time in the way Americans live, work and play. Using artifacts from the 1800s, students will assist with tasks around our historic log cabins, learn about historic clothes and toys, and make a dipped candle to take home!

Social Studies Standards: 2.H.3, 2.G.3

Our Farm: Then & Now

Students will experience a bygone era of farming and rural life by participating in 1800s farm chores, noting patterns of continuity and change as we observe plant needs, pollination, and seed dispersal while we work in our heritage garden; and visit our one-room schoolhouse; and care for our farm animals.

Social Studies Standards: 2.H.3, 2.G.3 Science Standards: 2-LS2-1, 2-LS2-2

[CLICK HERE FOR REGISTRATION FORM](#)

3RD



THIRD GRADE

Natural Science Discovery Day

9:30am to 1:15pm

You will receive four 40-minute learning labs in the following "Discover" group.

Also see the "Social Studies and Science Experience" 3rd grade option on the next page.

Discover the Following:

Terrific Traits

Harrison Hall of Natural Science

Through handling and closely examining a variety of live animals, students will discover ways in which these unique organisms have special traits that help them survive in their environments.

Science Standards 3-LS4-2 OR 3-LS4-3

Sponsored by: **FLUOR**

Fossils: Discover the Past

Harrison Hall of Natural Science

Discover the Past- Students will step into the role of paleontologists! In our fossil lab, they'll examine mystery fossils to uncover clues about Earth's past and how environments have changed over time. Students will also get to search for real fossils in our fossil pit and explore prehistoric life along our interactive dinosaur trail.

Science Standards 3-LS4-1

Sponsored by:  **scansource**

Survivor

Harrison Hall of Natural Science

"The tribe has spoken..." Which animals have what it takes to thrive on islands? Through hands on games and activities, students will learn about unique traits as well as difficult challenges that animals face that could determine whether or not they thrive, struggle, or fail to survive. Students will also have the opportunity to interact with live animals that call the islands their home.

Science Standards: 3-LS3-2, 3-LS4-2, 3-LS4-3

Rainforest Adventure

Harrison Hall of Natural Science

Students will go on an immersive journey into the tropical rainforest! As they explore our vibrant rainforest exhibit, they'll investigate the unique traits that help plants and animals survive in this lush environment. In our Rainforest Lab, students will get hands-on with live rainforest animals, making real-world connections to adaptations and ecosystems.

Science Standard: 3-LS4-3

Sponsored by:  **BOSCH**

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3RD



THIRD GRADE

Farm and Science Discovery Social Studies and Science Experience

9:30am to 1:15pm

Up to four school classes rotate through four different 40-minute learning labs. Learning labs support both the Science and Social Studies state standards.

Not available in January.

S.C. Daily Life in the 1800s

[Living History Farm](#)

By participating in daily chores that were required in the barn, garden, and farmhouse, students will investigate the cultural characteristics of the Scots-Irish families that scratched out a living on the Carolina frontier.

Social Studies Standard: 3.5.3.HS, 3.4.1.PR

Migration Mystery

[Living History Farm](#)

By working together to decipher clues, students will investigate the motivations behind human migration and how places can change as a result. Our journey will involve hands-on activities as we explore Cherokee culture through games, tools, and traditions, and delve into their forced migration, known as the Trail of Tears.

Social Studies Standard: 3.5.3.HS, 3.4.1.PR

Life Cycles

[Harrison Hall of Natural Science](#)

In this engaging lesson, students will observe live animals and compare life cycles across a variety of groups—including insects, reptiles, amphibians, and marine creatures. Through hands-on exploration, they'll discover the unique ways living things develop from young to adult.

Science Standards 3-LS1-1

Marine Exploration

[Harrison Hall of Natural Science](#)

Examine marine life up close and personal as you explore our marine habitat and discover how aquatic creatures can only survive in environments where their basic needs are met.

Science Standards 3-LS4-2 OR 3-LS4-3

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4TH



FOURTH GRADE

You will receive three of the four 55-minute learning labs in the “experience” grouping.

Fourth grade teachers may request a second visit for an additional unique experience.

Physical Science Experience

Light Heist

Symmes Hall of Science — 55 Minutes

There’s been a theft! In this “whodunit” lab, students will use properties of light to discover which suspect stole a precious sculpture. Working as detectives, students will use special equipment to investigate shadows, light mazes, light reflection, and color filters. The evidence will shine a light on the guilty party! Science Standards: 4-PS4-2.

Powerful Decisions

Symmes Hall of Science — 55 Minutes

It’s electric! After exploring different energy transformations, students will build circuits and try to power multiple devices simultaneously. Small groups will then wire their individual “homes” with a limited supply of electricity, powering the devices they deem most important. What will you power in your home?

Science Standards: 4-PS3-2, 4-PS3-4

Need for Speed

Symmes Hall of Science — 55 Minutes

Full speed ahead! In this “fast-paced” lab, students will collect real-time motion data from specialized cars and instantaneously view the resulting graphs. Using their data, students will examine the relationship of speed to energy and help Meevil the Weevil complete several feats. If you’re a thrill seeker, this challenge is for you!

Science Standards: 4-PS3-1, 4-PS3-3

Patterns Lab Escape

Symmes Hall of Science — 55 Minutes

Did you get the message? Students will be volunteers in Dr. Patty Turner’s lab and help her research how patterns are used to transmit information. Using patterns of light, sound, morse code, and more, students will decipher codes and unlock secrets of communication. Can you solve the puzzles and decrypt the final challenge in time?

Science Standards: 4-PS4-3

Continued on next page.

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4TH



FOURTH GRADE

Continued from previous page.

You will receive three of the four 55-minute learning labs in the “experience” grouping.

Fourth grade teachers may request a second visit for an additional unique experience. Please submit a second form for an additional visit.

Life Science and History Experience

Coastal Catastrophes

Hall of Environmental Science — 55 Minutes

They huff and puff and blow your beaches away. Each year hurricanes, earthquakes, and floods are responsible for massive changes to coast lines all over the world. Students will combat various natural disasters as they test a variety of beach erosion solutions and design earthquake engineering solutions. Science Standards: 4-ESS2-1, 4-ESS3-2

The 6th Sense

Harrison Hall of Natural Science — 55 Minutes

I see living animals. How do snakes hunt underground? How do owls use night vision to survive? How do bats find their food at night? Students will answer these questions and so many more as they explore the world and solve animal sized problems using a variety of animal sixth senses!

Science Standard: 4-LS1-2

Creepy Crawlies

Hall of Environmental Science — 55 Minutes

Venom glands, slimy skin, and armored bodies are just a few of the superhero like structures students will explore in this lesson while getting up close to animals that creep, slither, and crawl.

Science Standards: 4-LS1-1

American Revolutionaries

Living History Farm — 55 Minutes

By taking part in a reenactment, students will discover the hardships of military life as well as how the battle of Cowpens was a decisive turning point in our fight for freedom. Students will discover Revolutionary War spy techniques as they help to convey a secret message!

Social Studies Standards: 4.2.CE, 4.2P, 4.2CX

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5TH



FIFTH GRADE

9:30am to 1:15pm

In addition to two different 55 minute learning labs, students will discover Earth's Place in the Universe in our immersive full-dome Planetarium.

“Earth, Moon & Sun” Planetarium Show with a Live Lesson by the Astronomer

Hooper Planetarium and Giant Dome Theater — 55 Minutes

This exciting show, inspired by American Indian oral traditions, will help students learn concepts about the Earth-Moon-Sun system. Learn the basics of solar energy and why the sun rises and sets. Examine the moon's orbit, craters, phases and eclipses. Explore space travel to our moon... and beyond!

Science Standards 5.ESS1-1, 5.ESS1-2

IN ADDITION

The astronomer will use the unique, full-dome planetarium program to explore stellar distances and apparent brightness, patterns of day and night, and the seasonal appearance of some stars in the night sky.

Science Standards: 5-ESS1-1, 5-ESS1-2

**Along with the Planetarium experience,
choose from one of the following two explorations:**

1. Matter Exploration

(see lab descriptions on following page)

Revealing Reactions

AND

Where's the Matter

2. Earth and Ecosystem Exploration

(see lab descriptions on following page)

Conservation Cadets

AND

Eco Detectives

Continued on next page.

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FIFTH GRADE

Continued from previous page.

Along with the Planetarium experience,
choose from one of the following two explorations:

1. Matter Exploration

Revealing Reactions

Symmes Hall of Science — 55 Minutes

Be the detective! What happened at the food warehouse? Observe active chemical reactions under a microscope and compare physical and chemical properties to see if a new substance formed. Use these clues to reveal the cause of a mysterious fire!

Science Standard: 5-PS1-3, 5-PS1-4

AND

Where's the Matter?

Symmes Hall of Science — 55 Minutes

Can your students solve the problem of the missing materials? In this lab, students will investigate the conservation of matter by observing different reactions on a scale- did the amount of matter change? Where did it go? Students will determine where the missing material went!

Science Standards: 5-PS1-2

OR

2. Earth and Ecosystem Exploration

Conservation Cadets

Hall of Environmental Science— 55 Minutes

Using interactive Enviroscape models, students will discover how human impacts such as lawn fertilizer, litter, and even your own dog's waste can affect our land and water. They will also test solutions to these problems to help save the Earth. Finally, students will have the opportunity to see how Earth's systems interact through our amazing AR Topographic Sand Tables.

Science Standards: 5-ESS3-1, 5-ESS2-1

AND

Eco Detectives

Hall of Environmental Science— 55 Minutes

Students will become wildlife biologists as they examine mystery skulls, scats, and dissected owl pellets of animals in our local ecosystems. Hands-on activities will be used to infer what kind of consumers live in our ecosystems and what they depend upon for food.

Science Standards: 5-LS2-1

Sponsored by:



CLICK HERE FOR REGISTRATION FORM

5TH



FIFTH GRADE

“Sea” It In A Day (December and January Only)

9:30am to 1:15pm

Up to four school classes rotate through four different 45-minute ocean themed learning labs. Lunch will be scheduled as part of your visit.

Island Explorers

Harrison Hall of Natural Science

Students will explore the interactions of geosphere, hydrosphere and biosphere of a distant island as they study live animals, and use technology such as augmented reality sand tables and remotely operated vehicles to discover how life prevails under such unique and sometimes harsh conditions.

Science Standard: 5-ESS2-1

Sponsored by: **FLUOR**

A Muddy Mess!

Interdependent Relationships of the Salt Marsh Ecosystem

Harrison Hall of Natural Science

Step into the wonders of the salt marsh and discover the vital role that it plays in the health of our coastline as students explore the interdependent nature of this fascinating ecosystem. Pluff mud, brackish water and live salt marsh animals will be investigated.

Science Standards: 5-ESS2-2, 5-LS2-1

Coral Reefs

Harrison Hall of Natural Science

In this immersive lesson, students discover the fragile, yet important role the coral reef ecosystem plays in the health of our oceans. Through hands-on interaction with live ocean animals in our touch tanks, students will discover the variety of animals the ocean supports.

Science Standards: 5-LS2-1

Marine Energy Flow

Harrison Hall of Natural Science

Energy flows between organisms large and small in our vast oceans. Students will put their powers of observation to the test as they examine marine life up close using live specimens and microscopes. Students will analyze the flow of energy, as well as our role in the growing plastic dilemma in our oceans.

Science Standards 5-LS2-1

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6TH



MIDDLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY COMBINATIONS

EXPLORING EARTH'S SYSTEMS

**Schedule up to 300 students on the same day
10:00am to 12:15pm**

Divide your classes into two groups (up to 150 students each) and attend two incredible shows back-to-back in the Auditorium and Hooper Planetarium and Giant Dome Theater. Greenville County students are free. Other students are \$12 for the assembly combination. Lunch will be scheduled from 12:15pm - 12:45pm.

6th Grade

Clouds, Climates and Catastrophes!

Hipp Auditorium — Symmes Hall of Science — 60 Minutes

Join us as we delve into the intricate connections between water, energy, and Earth, shaping the weather we encounter daily. Witness the spectacle of giant clouds forming, lightning crackling from our Van De Graaff Generator, real-time temperature shifts captured by an infrared camera, and other captivating demonstrations. Students will gain insights into the atmosphere, water cycle, the impact of warm and cold air masses on weather patterns, and their broader effects on regional climates.

Science Standards: 6-ESS2-4, 6-ESS2-5, 6-ESS2-6

AND CHOOSE ONE of the Hooper Planetarium shows listed below

“Tales of the Maya Skies”

Hooper Planetarium and Giant Dome Theater — 60 Minutes

“Tales of the Maya Skies” tells the story of how the ancient Maya interwove astronomy and culture to create a stable society that spanned 2,000 years, from 500 BC to 1500 AD. Mayan culture, life, architecture, and legends were intertwined with the ancient Maya’s scientific observation and recording of planetary movements.

Social Studies Standard: 6.2.CC

OR

“Dynamic Earth”

Hooper Planetarium and Giant Dome Theater — 60 Minutes

In this highly engaging full-dome show, stunning satellite data visualizations and photorealistic animations are combined to provide unprecedented insights into the inner workings of Earth’s dynamic climate system and the influence that the Earth-Sun system, plate tectonics, and the carbon cycle has upon its energy trails and environmental systems.

Science Standards 6-ESS2-1, 6-ESS2-4, 6-ESS2-5, 6-ESS2-6

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MIDDLE SCHOOL HANDS-ON LEARNING LABS

Schedule Up To 150 Students per day 9:30am to 1:15pm

Divide your classes into six groups to rotate through three different hands-on learning labs. Lunch will be scheduled as part of your visit.

Sixth grade teachers may request a second visit for an additional unique experience. Please submit a second form for an additional visit.

6th Grade Physical Science Lab Experience

Hands-On Engineering: Shape the Future of Roper Mountain

Only Available September - January

Symmes Hall of Science

Three 55-minute learning labs

Calling all engineering enthusiasts! We need your creative skills to brainstorm exciting ways to elevate the Roper Mountain experience for students and visitors. Join us in this adventure where your class can dive into hands-on activities with our cool materials and tools, all while investigating scientific concepts of matter, energy and waves!

- Explore heat transfer using thermal cameras and experiment with insulators and conductors to design a safe glove to handle dry ice.

Sponsored by: **FLUOR**

- Program LEGO Spike Prime robots to simulate animal responses to different stimuli, linking robotics with biological concepts and creating an interactive "Robot Zoo."

Sponsored by: **FLUOR**

- Experiment with speakers and lights to optimize sound and light design across Roper Mountain.

Science Standards: 6-PS1-4, 6-PS3-3, 6-LS1-8, 6-PS4-2

OR

6th Grade Life and Earth Science Lab Experience

Cataclysmic Collisions

Only Available February - April

Hall of Environmental Science

Three 55-minute learning labs

Asteroids and comets in Earth's long history have struck earth creating cataclysmic events and causing mass extinctions. Paleontologist apprentices will be needed and trained to help look at present life forms, fossils of past life, and other clues to what events from these geoscience processes caused the extinction of most life forms - from one-celled organisms to dinosaurs. These apprentices will also model those impacts from catastrophic events that changed the earth's surface from the rising of large peaks to volcanoes and meteorite/comet impacts.

Science Standards: 6-LS1-1, 6-LS1-2, 6-ESS1-4, 6-ESS2-2

Want to bring more students at once? Check out the Middle School Assembly combination (page 15).

CLICK HERE FOR REGISTRATION FORM

7TH



MIDDLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY COMBINATIONS

MATTER, ENERGY AND ECOSYSTEMS

Schedule up to 300 students on the same day
10:00am to 12:15pm

Divide your classes into two groups (up to 150 students each) and attend two incredible shows back-to-back in the Auditorium and Hooper Planetarium and Giant Dome Theater. Greenville County students are free. Other students are \$12 for the assembly combination. Lunch will be scheduled from 12:15pm-12:45pm.

7th Grade

Fire and Ice — Physical and Chemical Changes in Matter

Hipp Auditorium — Symmes Hall of Science — 60 Minutes

Watch your students' reactions as they classify unknown changes as physical or chemical through our exciting, interactive demonstrations! Witness fire, explosions and extreme temperatures. We'll explore physical properties, the law of conservation of matter, and witness the effects of dangerous temperatures on different states of matter. Students will get an up close and personal view of chemical reactions, changes in states of matter, and acids and bases revealed by dramatic indicator changes.

Science Standard: 7-PSI-2, 7-PSI-5

AND

"Habitat Earth" - Living in a Connected World

Hooper Planetarium and Giant Dome Theater - 60 Minutes

Living networks connect and support life forms large and small—from colonies of tiny microbes and populations of massive whales to ever-expanding human societies. Discover what it means to live in today's connected world. Dive below the ocean's surface to explore the dynamic relationships found in kelp forest ecosystems, travel beneath the forest floor to see how Earth's tallest trees rely on tiny fungi to survive, and journey to new heights to witness the intricate intersection between human and ecological networks.

Science Standards: 7-LS2-1, 7-LS2-2, 7-LS2-3

A 402 Roper Mountain Road
Greenville, SC 29615

P 864.355.8900

RoperMountain.org



Looking for "Hands-On Labs"?
Check out the next page.

[CLICK HERE FOR REGISTRATION FORM](#)

7TH



MIDDLE SCHOOL HANDS-ON LEARNING LABS

Schedule Up To 150 Students per day 9:30am to 1:15pm

Divide your classes into six groups to rotate through three different hands on learning labs. Lunch will be scheduled as part of your visit.

Seventh grade teachers may request a second visit for an additional unique experience. Please submit a second form for an additional visit.

7th Grade Matter Lab Experience:

Chemistry: Make It Better With EcoSolutions

Only Available September - January

[Symmes Hall of Science](#)

[Three 55-minute learning labs](#)

Our products make the world better! Working through three separate investigations, students will:

- Generate hydrogen gas from water to use as a clean fuel
- Identify chemicals that were left unlabeled in an abandoned lab for safe disposal
- Test a natural, biodegradable alternative to a synthetic product

Throughout these investigations, students will make long-term decisions that help the environment while also maximizing profits. We need minds like yours to solve today's problems for a better tomorrow.

Science Standards: 7-PS1-2, 7-PS1-3, 7-PS1-5

OR

7th Grade Ecosystem Lab Experience:

Ecology Survival Challenge

Only Available February - April

[Hall of Environmental Science](#)

[Three 55-minute learning labs](#)

The supervolcano that is located underneath Yellowstone National Park has erupted and a giant cloud of ash will reach Roper Mountain in 4 hours! Time is of the essence as students investigate animal behaviors, water quality, and limited resources to see how the environment would be affected by such a natural disaster.

Science Standards: 7-LS2-4, 7-LS2-1

Sponsored by: **FLUOR®**

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Want to bring more students at once?
Check out the Middle School Assembly
combination (page 17).

[CLICK HERE FOR REGISTRATION FORM](#)

8TH



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MIDDLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY COMBINATIONS

MOTION, WAVES, AND EARTH'S PLACE IN THE UNIVERSE

Schedule up to 300 students on the same day

10:00am to 12:15pm

Divide your classes into two groups (up to 150 students each) and attend two incredible shows back-to-back in the Auditorium and Hooper Planetarium and Giant Dome Theater. Greenville County students are free. Other students are \$12 for the assembly combination. Lunch will be scheduled from 12:15pm - 12:45pm.

8th Grade

Force, Impacts, and Energy

Hipp Auditorium — Symmes Hall of Science — 60 Minutes

The Force is Right! You could be the next contestant on our physical science themed game show! Check out our most thrilling physics demonstrations of waves, collisions, and forces! We'll observe and analyze collisions--some involving audience members! Get ready to see sound waves dancing--in fire! We will also test a giant electromagnet! How much can it lift? Get ready to see how much fun physics can be!

Science Standards: 8-PS2-1, 8-PS2-2, 8-PS2-3, 8-PS4-1

AND

"STARS" The Powerhouse of the Universe

Hooper Planetarium and Giant Dome Theater - 30 Minutes

Every star has a story. Stars release the energy that powers the universe. New stars are created every day, born of vast clouds of gas and dust. Journey to the farthest reaches of our galaxy and experience both the awesome beauty and destructive power of STARS. This dynamic program features the voice talent of Mark Hamill (A.K.A. Luke Skywalker). This program also features a short sky-talk including the current evening sky.

Science Standards: 8-ESS1-1

AND

Earth's Place in the Universe - "Live Sky" Visualizations

Hooper Planetarium and Giant Dome Theater - 30 Minutes

Using the latest in digital night sky simulation we will take a journey to investigate the mysteries of our solar system and beyond. Why does Earth stay in orbit? How often do the moon phases repeat? What is the difference between a lunar and a solar eclipse? We'll explore the answers to these questions and more in our immersive, giant 50-foot curved dome of the Planetarium. Students will walk away with a greater understanding of the Earth and Space Science Performance Expectations after this specially aligned lesson.

Science Standards: 8.ESS1-1, 8.ESS1-2, 8.ESS1-3

[CLICK HERE FOR REGISTRATION FORM](#)



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LIVE FROM ROPER

FREE LIVE LESSONS FROM ROPER MOUNTAIN

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

Connect with our specialist via Zoom throughout the year as we offer new interactive lessons every four weeks. Each half hour lesson is unique, engaging, and based on South Carolina and national standards.

Visit RoperMountain.org for these free offerings throughout the year. Multiple virtual visits encouraged.

1st Grade

- 1st Quarter - **Exploring Sounds**
- 2nd Quarter - **Sky Watchers**
- 3rd Quarter - **Animal and Plant Powers**
- 4th Quarter - **Animal Babies**

2nd Grade

- 1st Quarter - **Landforms of Earth & Magic of Water**
- 2nd Quarter - **Changes Around Us & Preventing Erosion**
- 3rd Quarter - **Observing Matter & Heating and Cooling Matter**
- 4th Quarter - **How Plants Grow & How Seeds Travel**

3rd Grade

- 1st Quarter - **Balancing Forces & Magic of Magnets**
- 2nd Quarter - **Surviving the Seasons & Survival in Numbers**
- 3rd Quarter - **Fossils & What Does It Take to Survive?**
- 4th Quarter - **Weather Predictions & Severe Weather Solutions**

4th Grade

- 1st Quarter - **Energy Transfer & The Power of Natural Resources**
- 2nd Quarter - **The Power of Erosion & Waves in Action**
- 3rd Quarter - **Behaviors of Light & Cause and Effect of Motion**
- 4th Quarter - **Carnivorous Plants & Animal Senses**

5th Grade

- 1st Quarter - **Properties of Matter & Slime Time**
- 2nd Quarter - **Who Needs Dirt? & The Circle of Life**
- 3rd Quarter - **Saltmarsh Discovery & Impact of Community Growth on the Environment**
- 4th Quarter - **Gravitational Pull & The Night's Sky Throughout the Seasons**

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER



CLICK HERE FOR
DETAILS AND
TO REGISTER

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SCIENCE ON WHEELS OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Bring the excitement of Roper Mountain Science Center to your school! Our engaging, standards-aligned Science on Wheels programs inspire curiosity and support classroom learning for students in grades K5-5. Choose from interactive classroom experiences, live animal programs, group assemblies, and our portable planetarium.

For questions about Science On Wheels, contact Jennifer Romatelli at jromatelli@greenville.k12.sc.us or Jasmin Poor at jpoor@greenville.k12.sc.us.

Click [HERE](#) for our Science on Wheels offerings and fees.





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PUBLIC EVENTS & PROGRAMS



**Open every Friday Night from
January through November**

Planetarium Shows

Purchase tickets online. Tickets purchased are for ONE showtime ONLY.

4:30pm, 6:00pm and 7:30pm Showtimes Include:

Feature Show (changes quarterly)

- SpacePark 360 Virtual Rollercoaster
- Viewing in the Daniel Observatory (Observatory opens at 6:45pm)

Visit RoperMountain.org for show details and to pre-purchase tickets

- Early arrival strongly recommended



Holiday Laser Shows

Roper Mountain plans to bring back Holiday Laser Shows in Hooper Planetarium this winter.

Check RoperMountain.org in November for more information.



PUBLIC EVENTS & PROGRAMS



AFTERNOON EXPLORATIONS

September 17 - May 7

Thursdays and Fridays* - 1:30pm-5:00pm

**excluding days when RMSC is closed for Greenville County Schools Winter & Spring Breaks*

Continue your learning adventures throughout the school year in some of your favorite spaces at Roper Mountain as part of our Afternoon Explorations program:

- Interact with exhibits in the Hall of Environmental Science including the highly popular Nature Exchange.
- Encounter life-size prehistoric creatures on the Dinosaur Adventure Trail.
- Enjoy a stroll through our beautiful Butterfly Garden.
- Engage in creative outdoor play in Wildwood.

Afternoon Explorations Admission

Cash • Check • Credit Cards

\$8.00 Adults

\$7.00 Children Ages 3-12 (age 3 and up)

FREE RMSC Members



A 402 Roper Mountain Road
Greenville, SC 29615

P 864.355.8900

RoperMountain.org



SUMMER ADVENTURE

**Summer Adventure
returns in May 2027.**

Check [RoperMountain.org](https://www.ropermountain.org) for more information.



Our program
is absolutely
free for
South Carolina
public school
teachers
grades K–12!

All courses are
FREE and include:

- Free science materials
- Innovative ideas and hands-on ideas taught by master science teachers
- Recertification credit

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SCIENCE PLUS INSTITUTE

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Participatory Learning, Understanding, and Sharing



Join us for this year's Science PLUS Institute!

Science PLUS is a professional development program for public SC Science Teachers. Each course is grade specific and focuses on providing hands-on classes emphasizing the SC Science Standards

Fall and Spring

Mini-PLUS one-day events hosted at RMSC

Summer

Week-long hosted at the Roper Mountain Science Center

Housing, lunch, and materials are all provided to participants **FREE** of charge

How do I learn more?

Click **HERE** or visit **RoperMountain.org**
and click on the **Science PLUS** page
under the **Educators** tab.



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

We gratefully acknowledge these individuals, foundations, organizations and corporations whose annual gifts have helped to support Roper Mountain Science Center.

VISIONARY - \$20,000+

Dodge Industrial, Inc.
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Fluor Foundation
Fluor Golf for Greenville
Lockheed Martin Corporation
PNC Foundation

EXPLORER - \$15,000

BOSCH Community Fund
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VOYAGER - \$10,000

BMW Manufacturing
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Vulcan Materials Company

INNOVATOR - \$2,500

ABB
Greenville Master Gardeners
Carla Rivero-Olson and Eric Olson
Piedmont Natural Gas
Publix Super Market Charities
The Timken Company

Visit RoperMountain.org
for details on how you can
become a community partner!



Support Roper Mountain and enjoy benefits by becoming a member!

Benefits Include:

- Free admission to Summer Adventure, Afternoon Explorations, Starry Nights and select special events
- Discounted admission to Planetarium Laser Shows
- Summer Camp, discounts and access to early registration
- Program and events discounts as noted on the website
- Admission to over 300 science centers and museums world wide. Visit the Association of Science-Technology Centers and choose Passport Program to find participating facilities

Visit RoperMountain.org to join today!

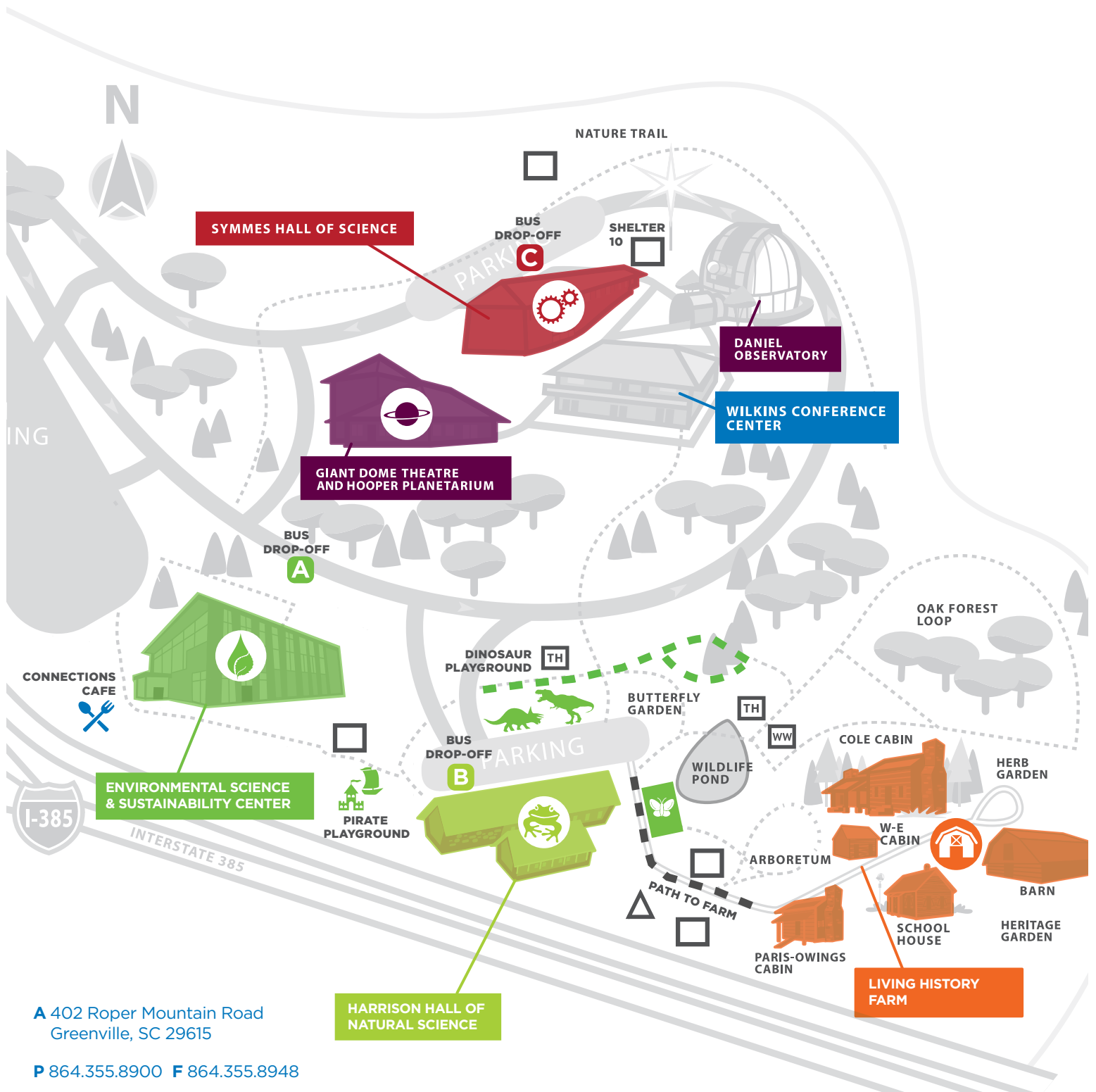
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Roper Mountain

2026–2027 Elementary Scheduling Request Form

Email form to: abuckmaster@greenville.k12.sc.us

Questions? [864.355.8967](tel:864.355.8967)

Priority Registration Deadline August 21, 2026

We will continue to accept registrations after the priority deadline.
Late requests will be scheduled based on availability and are not guaranteed.

- Please fill out forms for each teacher and class (ex. 6 Classes = 3 Forms...)
- All teachers on a grade-level should submit requests together if they want to be scheduled together (if possible). Include Special Education classes if needed.

School: _____ District: _____

Address: Private, Charter, Home School Only _____

Please rank (1-9) the months you prefer to visit. Do not rank months you are not willing to attend.

____ Sept. ____ Oct. ____ Nov. ____ Dec. ____ Jan. ____ Feb. ____ Mar. ____ Apr. ____ (1st Grade only) May

Teacher

Name: _____
first last

E-mail: Please print clearly _____

Grade: ____ # Students: ____

First Grade

☐ (April and May Only) Adventure Day

Second Grade (please rank)

☐ Option A OR ☐ Option B OR ☐ Option C

Third Grade (please rank)

☐ Natural Science Discovery OR ☐ Farm and Science Discovery

Fourth Grade (please rank)

☐ Life Science & History OR ☐ Physical Science Experience

Fifth Grade (please rank)

☐ Matter OR ☐ Earth & Ecosystem OR ☐ "Sea" It In a Day
(December/January)

Special education teachers:

Please list the instructional level of students and any special requirements.

Teacher

Name: _____
first last

E-mail: Please print clearly _____

Grade: ____ # Students: ____

First Grade

☐ (April and May Only) Adventure Day

Second Grade (please rank)

☐ Option A OR ☐ Option B OR ☐ Option C

Third Grade (please rank)

☐ Natural Science Discovery OR ☐ Farm and Science Discovery

Fourth Grade (please rank)

☐ Life Science & History OR ☐ Physical Science Experience

Fifth Grade (please rank)

☐ Matter OR ☐ Earth & Ecosystem OR ☐ "Sea" It In a Day
(December/January)

Special education teachers:

Please list the instructional level of students and any special requirements.

OFFICE USE ONLY

____ Date Received ☐ Entered Spreadsheet ☐ Entered Altru

Program Scheduled _____ Date _____ Email offer _____ ☐ Accepted ☐ Declined

Alternative Offer _____



Roper Mountain

2026-2027 Middle School Scheduling Request Form

Email form to: liphilli@greenville.k12.sc.us

Questions? 864.355.8925

Priority Registration Deadline August 21, 2026

We will continue to accept registrations after the priority deadline.
Late requests will be scheduled based on availability and are not guaranteed.

School: _____ District: _____

Address: Private, Charter, Home School Only _____

Coordinating Teachers

Total # of Students (for all teachers) _____

1 - Name: _____ Phone _____ E-mail: _____
first last Please print clearly

2 - Name: _____ Phone _____ E-mail: _____
first last Please print clearly

Grade Level

Please rank (1-4) the months you prefer to visit. Do not rank months you are not willing to attend.

6 7 8 _____ September/October _____ November/December _____ January/February _____ March/April

Choose Your Program

Hands on Learning Labs

Assembly Combo

Either

Hands on Learning Labs (Grade 6 & 7 only - max 150/day)

Grade 6

Hands on Engineering

September - January only

Cataclysmic Collisions

February - April only

Grade 7

Chemistry

September - January only

Ecology Survival Challenge

February - April only

Grade 8

Not Available

Auditorium & Planetarium Assembly Combo (Max 300/day)

Grade 6

Clouds, Climates and Catastrophes! AND

"Dynamic Earth" OR

"Tales of the Maya Skies"

Grade 7

Fire & Ice and "Habitat Earth"

Grade 8

Forces, Impacts and Energy and
"Stars"

Optional Lunch - Assembly Combo Only

Lunch is available from our cafe immediately following your program. Check here to indicate if you will be staying for lunch.

Staying Not Staying

OFFICE USE ONLY

_____ Date Received ☐ Entered Spreadsheet ☐ Entered Altru

Program Scheduled _____ Date _____ Email offer _____ ☐ Accepted ☐ Declined

Alternative Offer _____