

2026/27 SAISD Grade Level LEARNING EXPEDITIONS Program

The SAISD Foundation, in partnership with the SAISD Curriculum Department, is expanding our Grade Level Learning Expeditions Program to all K-8th SAISD Schools in the 2026-27 school year. The Grade Level Learning Expedition Program is designed to support hands-on field trip experiences to SAISD students so they can connect classroom learning to real-world application and deepen their curiosity. This program is geared towards key concepts that align with course curriculums and TEKS. The Foundation has partnered with local museums and organizations to offer these opportunities, all admission costs and transportation costs are covered by our generous partners and/or donors including The Battle of the Flowers Foundation.

Trip Locations by Grade Level

- Kinder - SA Botanical Garden
- 1st - Magik Theatre
- 2nd - SA Zoo
- 3rd - Witte Museum
- 4th - The Alamo and/or Briscoe Museum
- 5th - SAMSAT OR Scobee Planetarium
- 6th - The Holocaust Museum
- 7th - Bullock Texas History Museum (Austin)
- 8th - SA Botanical Garden



KINDERGARTEN - SAN ANTONIO BOTANICAL GARDEN

Approx. Length: 45 minutes

Capacity: 80 Students

POC: Gina Lucci, School Programs Coordinator, glucci@sabot.org

Early Childhood Garden-to-Table Experience

See, taste, do! This garden-to-table experience brings farming and growing food to life for young learners. The program includes a sensory garden tour, tasting a recipe with fresh garden ingredients, and planting something edible. SABOT is holding dates for SAISD schools: 09/02, 09/04, 09/09, 09/11, 09/16, 09/23, 09/25, 09/30, 10/02, and 10/07.

To Book: 1. Fill out the [School Group Visit Form](#) and write in "SAISD Grade Level Cohort" in the name after your school name. **2.** Complete the SAISD Foundation's Field Trip Transportation Request on our website. **Please note**, that the admission of 1 teacher per 10 students will be included. Admission tickets for additional chaperones will be at the school's expense.

FIRST GRADE - THE MAGIK THEATRE

Approx. Length: Up to 3 hours

Capacity: 575 Students

POC: For group reservations, email info@magiktheatre.org

Bring Your Class to the Theatre!

Choose from one of two shows, "If You Give a Mouse a Cookie", or "How The Grinch Stole Christmas The Musical" for the fall semester. Their TEKS-aligned resource guides are based on individual shows. For every production, educators (and parents!) are able to download these guides for free at any time.

To Book: 1. Complete the [Interest Form](#). **2.** Complete the SAISD Foundation's Field Trip Transportation Request on our website. **Please note**, that the admission of 1 teacher per 10 students will be included. Admission tickets for additional chaperones will be at the school's expense.

SECOND GRADE - SAN ANTONIO ZOO

Approx. Length: 3-4 hours

Capacity: 200 Students

POC: Michael Gates - Education Coordinator, michael.gates@sazoo.org

Zoo Connection Connect students with nature as they participate in TEKS-supported lessons & activities, explore bio facts, and experience up-close encounters with animal ambassadors. After the 60-minute classroom program, classes may explore the zoo habitats and have a school sack lunch on the grounds. More info [here](#).

To Book: 1. Register for a Zoo Connection Class: <https://sazoo.org/programs/fieldtrips/>. Contact Michael to confirm your visit. 2. Complete the SAISD Foundation's Field Trip Transportation Request on our website. **Please note**, that the admission of 1 teacher per 10 students will be included.

THIRD GRADE - THE WITTE MUSEUM

Approx. Length: 3-4 hours

Capacity: 150 Students

POC: Cherub Spivey, Director of Group Experience, cherubspivey@wittemuseum.org

Teachers Choice - Nature or STEM

Inspire excitement for lifelong learning. The Witte offers multiple ways for school groups to engage in relevant programming focused on nature, science and culture. Groups are welcome to have a sack lunch on the grounds which are in Brackenridge Park.

To Book: 1. Complete the Witte's form and start planning a visit by selecting your chosen program [here](#). Make sure you select "yes" when asked if you are requesting scholarship funding. 2. Complete the SAISD Foundation's Field Trip Transportation Request on our website. **Please note**, that the admission of 1 teacher per 10 students will be included. Admission tickets for additional chaperones will be at the school's expense.

FOURTH GRADE: THE ALAMO

Can be combined with a same day trip with Briscoe

Approx. Length: 30-45 minutes

Capacity: 80 Students

POC: Natalie Farias, School Group Scheduler, nfarias@thealamo.org

Alamo Workshop at the Texas Cavaliers Education Center

Enhance your field trip with hands-on experience inside the Texas Cavaliers Education Center. Led by an Alamo Educator, these interactive activities invite students to investigate, create and explore through engaging lessons that connect history, science, art, archeology and daily life. The Alamo is holding dates for SAISD schools: **10/29, 10/30, 11/05, 11/16, 12/03, 12/04, 12/07, 12/08, 12/16, and 12/17 with two times available at: 10:30 am or 12:30 am.** Groups can have a sack lunch on the grounds.

To Book: 1. Complete the Field Trip request form for the Alamo [here](#). For questions email education@thealamo.org. 2. Complete the SAISD Foundation's Field Trip Transportation Request on our website. **Please note**, that the admission of 1 teacher per 10 students will be included.

OPTIONAL ADD ON - FOURTH GRADE: THE BRISCOE WESTERN ART MUSEUM

Can be added with a same day trip to the Alamo

Approx. Length: 50-60 Minutes

Capacity: 80 Students

POC: Robin Davis, Community & Family Programs Coordinator

rdavis@briscoemuseum.org

Traversing the West

The student understands the political, economic and social changes in Texas during the last half of the 19th century. The student is expected to: (A) explain the growth, development, and impact of the cattle industry (B) explain the effects of the railroad industry on life in Texas. To pair your trip with The Alamo, book on one of the following dates: 10/29, 10/30, 11/05, 11/16, 12/03, 12/07, 12/08, 12/16, and 12/17.

To Book: 1. Email: education@briscoemuseum.org to book your field trip. 2. Complete the SAISD Foundation's Field Trip Transportation Request on our website. **Please note**, that the admission of 1 teacher per 10 students will be included. Admission tickets for additional chaperones will be at the school's expense.

CHOOSE ONE OF THE TWO OPTIONS FOR FIFTH GRADE

FIFTH GRADE/OPTION 1-SCOBEE EDUCATION CENTER

Approx. Length: 90 min.

Capacity: 34 Students

POC: Mariana Zoll, Associate Director of Instruction, mzoll3@alamo.edu

OPERATION COMET

Challenger Learning Center Missions immerse students into the roles of scientists, engineers and astronauts engaging in their state-of-the-art simulated learning environment. Two teachers required for each mission, as the students are in two separate locations during the mission. ****This opportunity requires teachers to attend a Pre-Mission Training before their program****

To Book: 1. Complete the [Book your Field Trip Request](#) make sure you select the Title 1 question at the end of the form 2. Complete the SAISD Foundation's Field Trip Transportation Request on our website. **Please note** that up to 8 adult chaperones may accompany the group in missions with 4 in each area.

FIFTH GRADE/OPTION 2-SAN ANTONIO MUSEUM OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Approx. Length: 3 1/2 hours

Capacity: 50 Students

POC: Tomie Escobar, Senior STEM Administrator, tomie.escobar@samsat.org

21 Discovery

Bring your students to SAMSAT's AREA 21 located in the Boeing Center at Tech Port for an immersive experience featuring guided tours, STEM classes and activities as well as exposure to cutting-edge 21st-century technologies. Specific STEM areas include robotics and programming, medical technology, structural engineering, magnetic levitation, cybersecurity, and Math in 3D.

To Book: 1. E-mail: info@samsat.org and specifically mention you are inquiring about the SAISD Grade Level Learning Expedition program with a SAISD Foundation/SAISD referral. 2. Complete the SAISD Foundation's Field Trip Transportation Request on our website.

SIXTH GRADE - THE SAN ANTONIO HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

Approx. Length: 2-3 hrs dependent on group size **Capacity:** 6th Grade Class

POC: Sarah Ettinger, Curriculum Development Specialist, ettingers@jfsatx.org

Students will discover how Nazi ideology and Hitler's rise to power led to the Holocaust in Europe. Learning takes place through artifacts, survivor stories, and a docent-led session, concluding with a reflection on the terrace to honor the lives lost. For groups larger than 50, we offer additional hands-on sessions. These may include:

- Analyzing propaganda from WW II and the Holocaust.
- An Upstander activity exploring the choices people made to resist or rescue.

You may also request a specific focus for the docent, such as America's awareness.

To Book: 1. Request student tours through the website. Please confirm at least 2 weeks in advance. NOTE: January tours fill quickly due to Holocaust Remembrance Week, so early registration is encouraged 2. Complete the SAISD Foundation's Field Trip Transportation Request on our website.

SEVENTH GRADE - THE BULLOCK TEXAS HISTORY MUSEUM

Approx. Length: 8:30am-3:30pm

Capacity: 7th Grade Class

POC: Shelby Barrera (shelby.barrera@TheStoryOfTexas.com)

Sofia Garza (sgarza28@saisd.net)

Texas History Adventure

Take a charter bus sponsored by the Battle of Flowers Foundation for a day trip to Austin to visit the Bullock Museum. See Texas from all angles. Students will be on a learning expedition as they spark their curiosity, analyze artifacts and enhance their classroom learning. Charter bus and lunch provided.

To Book: Visit their [website](#) then email sgarza28@saisd.net to reserve the charter buses. Delivered lunches are provided. Please note, that the admission of 1 teacher per 10 students will be included. Admission tickets for additional chaperones or films offered by the museum will be at the school's expense.

EIGHTH GRADE - SAN ANTONIO BOTANICAL GARDEN

Approx. Length: 90 min.

Capacity: 60 students

POC: Gina Lucci, School Programs Coordinator, glucci@sabot.org

Engineering a Healthy Ecosystem

San Antonio Botanical Garden's WaterSaver Community provides an inspiring model of landscape designs that conserve water. Students will learn about real-world solutions and ways to manage our local natural resources of water, land, and plants. As part of this program students will participate in a hands-on land management engineering challenge. SABOT is holding dates for SAISD schools: **09/02, 09/04, 09/09, 09/11, 09/16, 09/23, 09/25, 09/30, 10/02, and 10/07.**

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For questions on the Grade Level Learning Expedition program, contact Sofia Garza at the SAISD Foundation at sgarza28@saisd.net.