

Pike Place Market Field Trip Tips

Planning and preparation are keys to a successful educational field trip. In advance of your field trip to the Market, please review the following information and take action where needed.

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Be Purposeful

Give your class a purpose or objective for the field trip. Use the field trip to explore or reinforce ideas and skills previously taught in class. Help guide their focus even though there are so many distracting sights and sounds. Please dedicate time to preparing your class in advance of the field trip.

Think about how you wish to use the field trip experience as an introduction to other subjects or skills that will be taught later. See the “Post-Field Trip Activity Suggestions” handout.

Also, if creating a scavenger hunt for students, please be sensitive to the needs and business practices of merchants. Merchants frown upon activities that are disruptive to conducting business with customers.

A Baker’s Dozen of More Tips

- ✓ The best times for to visit are from 10 a.m. to noon, Tuesday through Thursday. Mid-October through early April are quieter months (except days around holidays).
- ✓ If you’d like to spend time in specific stores, please contact the store owners before your visit. Most stores are small and cannot accommodate groups, but merchants will often step outside to talk about their businesses. If at the Market you discover a shop of interest, ask first before taking a group inside.
- ✓ Remind students that each store is a place of business; please keep voices low and ask first before touching items. Please be courteous to other shoppers by not interrupting merchants who are helping customers.
- ✓ Instruct students to return to Rachel the bronze piggybank under the clock if they get separated from the group. Students can ask any adult who works at a business where Rachel the Piggybank is located.
- ✓ Please have one adult chaperone for every five students. Please share learning goals and behavior expectations for the field trip. Give them the “Helpful Tips for Pike Place Market Chaperones” handout.
- ✓ Please communicate to students your expectations regarding field trip behavior. Have students practice good listening skills, manners, etc



- ✓ Have students and chaperones wear name tags; include the name of the school if your school prohibits identifying children by name.
- ✓ Parent drivers may park in the PDA's Public Market Parking Garage at 1531 Western Avenue. The garage is south of the skybridge on Western Avenue. Enter next to the tattoo shop. Here's info about parking: <http://www.pikeplacemarket.org/public-market-garage>.
- ✓ School buses may stop on the west side of Western Avenue just south of Victor Steinbrueck Park, or southbound on First Avenue near Pike Place Flowers. The closest parking for school buses is on the waterfront near the aquarium.
- ✓ If your class comes via Metro bus, call Metro in advance. Here's info about using Metro: <http://metro.kingcounty.gov/prog/kids/field.html>. There are bus stops within a few blocks of the Market.
- ✓ Many classes eat lunch at the Market. Although there are no public seating areas to accommodate entire classes, many will accommodate smaller groups of 5-10 people. There are public seating areas in the Economy building Atrium and Lower Level (next to the Gum Wall); Waterfront viewing area next to Soundview Café; levels below Pike Place; and in the Sanitary Market and Soames-Dunn buildings. Many groups have lunch at Steinbrueck Park, in the north end of the Market, when weather permits.
- ✓ Decide in advance how you would like students to handle individual spending money.
- ✓ Need some ideas for what to do while at the Market? See the "What to Do in the Market" handout.

RESTROOMS: There are four sets of public restrooms, two on each side of Pike Place the brick street: downstairs from Rachel the Piggybank; downstairs from City Fish; in the Sanitary Market; and in the Soames-Dunn building.

For a tri-fold brochure, handy for printing and taking with you, see the PDF of "Trip Trips: A Teacher's Guide to Field Trips to the Pike Place Market."

