

A Short History of the Market

It all began as an experiment to help lower food prices. The City of Seattle created the Pike Place Market and opening day was August 17, 1907. Farmers backed their wagons against the curbs of Pike Place and Pike Street, selling their fresh produce directly to customers. All eight farmers sold out by noon that first day; the next week there were 70 farmers.

The Market thrived even in tough economic times to feed local customers and also be a community gathering place for people of all races and backgrounds. When threatened with demolition in the 1960s, the community rallied, and Seattle voters decided the fate of the Market in November 1971 by voting to renovate the Market. Seattle voters again supported preservation efforts by approving in 2008 more renovation efforts.

Today the Market remains a major food center. About 85 farmers sell local, farm-fresh produce and farm-sourced foods like eggs, honey, jams and herbs. You'll also find domestic and international foods from produce stands called highstalls; plus, a wide array of specialty foods, meats, cheeses, baked goods and seafood. There are over 70 restaurants and take-outs to enjoy.

Over 200 craftspeople sell their handmade wares on rented table spaces called daystalls. The talent on display is incredible. Buskers entertain.

The Market now is over nine acres and 23 buildings that house 240 commercial businesses and 500 residents, most of whom are low-income, elderly or disabled. Services like a food bank, medical clinic, senior center and preschool add to the diversity of the community. It's a great place to shop, work, live and play!



Parking

School buses and vans can load/unload on Western Avenue heading south, just past the intersection of Pike Place and Virginia Street beyond Victor Steinbrueck Park. These vehicles park at the waterfront. The northwest corner of First & Pike is another possible load/unload spot.

The Public Market Parking Garage is located at 1531 Western Avenue, with entrances next to Madame Lazonga Tattoo on Western Avenue, or off of Alaskan Way across from the Seattle Aquarium. For current rates (including Early Bird rates), visit <http://pikeplacemarket.org/pages/directions-parking>. Access to the garage is restricted to vehicles under 6'8" in height.

Public Transportation

The Market is close to bus stops on Second, Third and Fourth Avenues. The nearest tunnel stops are at Westlake or University. Call Metro Transit at 206.553.3000 for more info.. Metro has a school field trip program for discounted bus fare: <http://metro.kingcounty.gov/prog/kids/field.html>.

Restrooms

There are four sets of public restrooms:

1. Find the stairs near Rachel the Piggybank and Pike Place Fish. Go to the landing below.
2. Down the ramp next to City Fish (foot of Pine ST).
3. Soames-Dunn Building, in back of Bavarian Meats.
4. Sanitary Market Building next to Kitchen Basics.

For More Information

Visit the Market's website at www.pikeplacemarket.org for directories, directions, a map, events, and a Visitors FAQ. There's an Education section, too, where you can share your ideas on the blog.

Trip Tips: A Teacher's Guide to Field Trips to the Pike Place Market



Education is a program of the Pike Place Market Preservation and Development Authority (PDA)
85 Pike ST Room 500
Seattle, WA 98101

Phone: 206.682.7453

Contact: Scott Davies,
206.774.5257
scott@pikeplacemarket.org

WWW.PIKEPLACEMARKET.ORG

Planning Your Trip to the Pike Place Market



Reflecting on Seattle is among the businesses to discover at the Pike Place Market.

The least-crowded times to visit are from 10 a.m. to noon, Monday through Thursday. Most shops are open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays. Hours vary by business; some open earlier or stay open later.

Traveling through the Market's 23 buildings can be confusing, and there are so many wonderful and distracting sights and sounds.

Thus, we ask groups to provide **one adult chaperone for every five students**. Please have them wear name tags.

Explain learning goals and behavior expectations with chaperones and students prior to the field trip. What is the focus of any special themes or activities?

If you'd like to spend time in a specific store, please contact the store owner in advance. Many stores are small and cannot accommodate groups, but merchants will often step outside to talk about their businesses.

Locations for a rest or lunch stop include Victor Steinbrueck Park in the north end; public seating in the Economy Atrium & Post Alley elevator lobby; Levels 3 and 4 below Pike Place; and near Sound View Café. The park can accommodate entire classes, the other spaces small groups (5-10) only.

During Your Market Trip

Please be sensitive that the Pike Place Market, one of the nation's oldest continuously operating farmers markets, continues to be a retail and residential community. Here are a few tips to convey to students and chaperones:

- ⇒ **"Customers First"**: Many merchants enjoy speaking to small groups so you can "Meet the Producer." Ask first, though, before taking a group into a shop. Also remind students that each store is a place of business. Please use quiet voices and ask before touching merchandise. Being considerate to other shoppers is much appreciated. If a sample is offered, please take one only. It's polite to ask before taking photos at some businesses.
- ⇒ **"Pleeza No Squeeza"**: Food displayed on the highstalls is for sale and has often been lovingly displayed. This is food for shoppers to buy, so please tell students to look with eyes only and not to touch. It's fun to also find signs in the Market that say "Please Don't Touch" in unusual ways.
- ⇒ **"Meet You at the Pig"**: Set a meeting place if someone gets separated from the group or if the group is to meet at a special time. Rachel the bronze piggybank under the clock is most



popular. Students can ask any adult who works at a business where Rachel the Piggybank is located.

What to Do in the Market

Try these here or in your classroom:

- ⇒ As a class, plan a **seasonal menu** for simple things the class can buy. Decide on the amount of money each student or group may bring, then shop for one item each.
- ⇒ Discuss different **ethnic foods** students have tried. Pick one or two of these ethnic groups, and research their culture and traditions. Look for traditional foods and crafts at the Market.
- ⇒ Do a **class jigsaw**. Choose a theme such as foods. Divide the class into groups of five or so. Each group is assigned a topic for which it's the expert. Each student is given a role, like photographer or interviewer. The class comes together and learns from each group.
- ⇒ **Write a story or draw a picture** entitled, "A Day in the Life of ___ at Pike Place Market."
- ⇒ Visit during **different seasons**. How does the Market change? How is shopping the Market different from a mall?
- ⇒ **Interview parents, grandparents or others** who grew up in Seattle. What was the Market like in the past?
- ⇒ **Create an alphabet book of different or unusual foods** sold at the Market.