**Krista Podolny**

**EDU 374  
Informal Science Setting/Field Trip  
3/9/16**

**MOST: The Museum of Science and Technology**

Dear Principal,

My 2nd grade class has developed a growing interest in all things SCIENCE! I have been encouraging there interests by adding many lesson from “Picture Perfect Science Lessons” and “Growing Up Wild,” you might have seen us playing “Oh Deer” with Mrs. Rey’s class. I am so proud of our class and our school that we are developing these STEM Fields. Our society often tells girls and women that they don't belong in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields. I would like to further encourage ALL the students in our class and deepen there understanding of these STEM fields, by taking a field trip to the MOST: The Museum of Science and Technology.

The children will be exposed to all these activities/lessons at the MOST:

* A giant replica of the human heart and brain
* Central nervous system functions
* Respiratory, digestive and musculoskeletal systems
* Large cave with crawling tunnels
* Fossils
* Stalagmites and stalactites
* A giant climbing maze called the science playhouse
* A giant kinetic sculpture
* F-16 jet cockpit
* Planetarium
* Apothecary

Many of our students at Best School Ever, can’t afford the admission fee to attend this museum or have transportation issues. My goal is to create a positive learning experience in our community that connects to their learning and interests.

Not just for the students education, but the MOST offers educational opportunities and resources offered for teachers, like:

* Free planning visit for teachers
* Most staff member that helps with parking bus, greeting, and accommodations based on groups needs.
* One chaperone required for every 10 children
* Educator Resources are available (when I was there, they were out, but gave me a number to call and request 315.425.9168x2145)
* Teacher guides
* Workshops for educators: mainly about astronomy and nanotechnology

I understand that the district is limited in what it can provide. It might be more affordable to participate in the “Science on the Go” program, a 45 min science demonstration that takes place at our school, for only $350. Here is the breakdown on some of the offsite and onsite features:

* Onsite:
  + 15 min live demonstrations that are offered twice a day on weekends and school vacation weeks.
  + 45 min science demonstrations for fieldtrip groups
  + 45 min hands-on workshops
  + Planetarium shows (when I was there the show was “Zoo in the Sky” a show that explores constellations and the animal legends about them)
* OffSite:
  + 45 min hands-on workshops
  + “Science on the go” 45 min presentations
    - Sound, Bubbles and an Animal (K-3rd)
    - One World, Many Sounds: The Science of Sound and Music (k-8th)
    - Animal Adaptations: Live animals and Real Animal Skulls (K-8th)
    - Wow Science: Science Tricks and Optical Illusions (K-8th)

Students who attend this fieldtrip will develop their understanding of MST Standards. Standard 1: Students will use mathematical analysis, scientific inquiry, and engineering design, as appropriate, to pose questions, seek answers, and develop solutions.

Standard 3: Students will understand mathematics and become mathematically confident by communicating and reasoning mathematically, by applying mathematics in real-world settings, and by solving problems through the integrated study of number systems, geometry, algebra, data analysis, probability, and trigonometry.

Standard 6: Students will understand the relationships and common themes that connect mathematics, science, and technology and apply the themes to these and other areas of learning. (The theme: the human body, learning about the human heart and brain, central nervous system functions, respiratory, digestive and musculoskeletal systems and how they interact.)

Standard 7: Students will apply the knowledge and thinking skills of mathematics, science, and technology to address real-life problems and make informed decisions.

Emergent curriculum and lessons that are based in a child’s interest should be encouraged. Children benefit greatly from field trip and hands-on learning. It will be a great day that they will remember!

Thank you for your consideration,

Krista Podolny