



The MIT Museum offers a variety of programs for groups on specific scientific and technological topics which use the philosophy of engagement and inquiry to explore one theme or concept in depth. Each of the group programs connects to the Massachusetts State Curriculum Frameworks in Science and Technology/Engineering, with specific connections to the Physics, Chemistry, and Biology curricula.



Massachusetts Institute of Technology

MIT Museum  
Building N52  
265 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02139

[web.mit.edu/museum](http://web.mit.edu/museum)



School Programs for Grades 6-12

# Connecting Students with Science and Technology at MIT

## Programs

In addition to the programs listed here, the MIT Museum has temporary, exhibit-related programs that are promoted on the Museum website. MIT Museum programs link to the Massachusetts State Curriculum Frameworks in Science and Technology.

## Learning Lab: The Cell

Within human bodies lies a complex system as elegant and efficient as any factory: protein synthesis from instructions encoded in DNA. Students use the MIT Museum's new space, Learning Lab: The Cell for a lesson about DNA, RNA, ribosomes and proteins. Students will explore this fundamental basis of life with LEGO® DNA kits, digital models, and guided discussion.

## Here Comes the Sun

Hands-on activities and discussion about circuits, silicon, light, heat and electricity help students understand renewable and non-renewable energy sources and their role in society. Students learn about photovoltaic solar cells, and envision how solar energy can be integrated into their lives. Students build a working solar device as they engage in the MIT ethos of experimentation and collaboration.

## Why Skyscrapers Stand Up and Bridges Don't Fall Down

Find out just how strong a piece of paper can be, bridge distances you'd never think possible, and see the simple geometry at the root of the tallest buildings in this active workshop on architecture and structural engineering. Students will design and build bridges using recycled materials, learning how structures stand up and working together as teams of engineers. Examples from architecture and engineering developed at MIT deepen students' appreciation of the structures all around us.

## Exhibitions

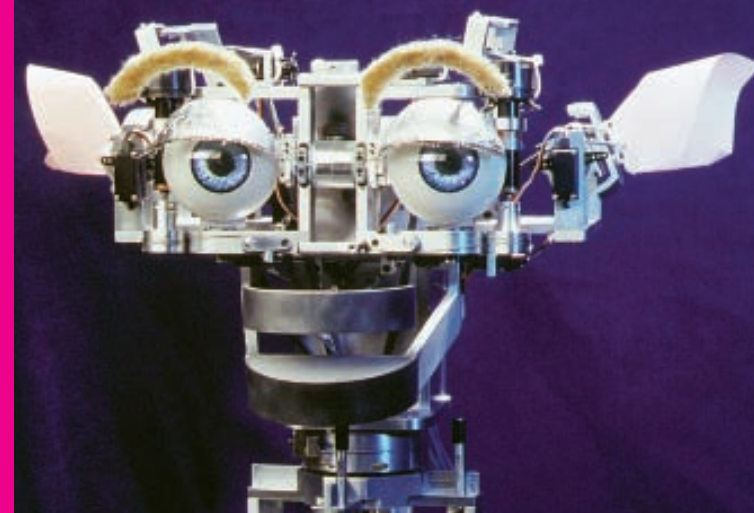
Each program includes admission to the MIT Museum. Sometimes the program is conducted in the gallery where connections are made between the hands-on activities of the programs and the objects on display in the exhibitions. Many groups combine a program with a self-guided tour of the galleries, letting students discover the museum for themselves. Activity sheets are available for some grade levels and topics.

## Before Your Visit

Plan on discussing your expectations and aspirations for your visit with the Museum's Education Coordinator. This conversation is an opportunity for teachers to ask questions about the programs and make specific requests, as well as to describe how an MIT Museum Group Program can enhance your students' learning. Be prepared to describe what your students already know about the particular topic of the planned program. Sample lesson plans are available for some grade levels.

## Planning Your Visit

Programs are offered Tuesday - Friday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. All programs cost \$150 per group of up to 25 participants. Larger groups will be divided into sections of 25 or fewer, and rotated through the selected program. Each program lasts 2 hours but can be shortened to fit your schedule.



## Getting Here

The MIT Museum is located in Cambridge, a short walk from the Central Square "T" stop on the Red Line. Directions and how to access the #1 bus on Massachusetts Ave. are posted on our website: <http://web.mit.edu/museum>

## Restaurants

Within a few blocks of the MIT Museum are a variety of inexpensive restaurants, coffee shops and ice cream stores, as well as parks for picnic lunches in warm weather. The MIT Student Center also has restaurants and snack bars, and large outdoor and indoor eating areas.

## Other Activities

MIT offers many other activities and facilities for students and school groups. A full listing of MIT's K-12 programs is available online at <http://web.mit.edu/outreach>. Check the MIT Museum website to join the e-mail newsletter that will alert you to new exhibitions and programs!

## Reserve a Program

Call: 617-253-9607

E-mail: [museumed@mit.edu](mailto:museumed@mit.edu)

Please make arrangements at least three weeks in advance.

