

Explore! Children's Museum of Washington, DC is a private 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to serving children birth through age 12 in the District of Columbia, Virginia and Maryland.



The Mission

At Explore! we spark the curiosity and creativity of children and inspire wonder about the world.

Exhibits and Programs

A giant, creative laboratory where visitors experiment, build, learn, and express themselves. Through interactive exhibits and sensory-based experiences, children take ownership of their learning.

- Children are exposed to a spectrum of hands-on and immersive activities including the latest in innovative technology.
- Our programming teaches and reinforces creativity, communication, critical thinking and collaboration.
- Designed to appeal to children birth through age 12, programs promote intergenerational learning and play.

- Visitors create, tinker, and investigate together in the museum's flexible and collaborative space.
- Children explore their interests and spark their imagination and creativity through classes, workshops, camps and free-play opportunities.
- **Explore!** is a trusted educational hub leveraging innovation and technology to inspire, excite and prepare our children.



Community

We connect the vast resources that exist in the area by collaborating with community partners including museums, libraries, schools, and community centers.

- Explore! serves children, families, schools and community groups from the DC-metro area and beyond.

EXPLORE! MISSION MOBILE

Projected to impact 6,000 students and teachers, the mobile learning lab visits area schools, community centers and partner sites.

- Traveling throughout the District's eight wards, Mission Mobile engages kids in Grades 4-6 in a simulated immersive game environment where kids exercise 21st century skills.
- Currently featuring *Maelstrom*, designed in collaboration with the Smithsonian Institution and The George Washington University, kids are assigned STEM-aligned roles, like engineer and scientist, and work together to complete their mission.

Locations

EXPLORE! FORT TOTTEN

Located in the Fort Totten neighborhood in Northeast DC, Explore! Children's Museum is part of the current revitalization project known as *Art Place*.

- This community hub provides over 55,000 sq. feet to house galleries, exhibits, and working labs.
- The location is easily accessible to residents and area visitors. Situated one block from the Red, Green and Yellow Metro lines with over 800 Metro bus trips daily, and free parking at the site.

EXPLORE! DOWNTOWN

The downtown DC location serves area residents and the 19+ million annual visitors traveling to the National Capital Region.

- The site offers experiences unique to the nation's capital working in conjunction with area museums and community partners.
- With multiple sites in highly populous and trafficked locations and an active mobile learning lab, the estimated annual reach is 400,000 guests per year.

Recommended
by John Davis,
Chief of
Schools, DC
Public Schools

Explore! Mission Mobile

LEARNING IN THE 21ST CENTURY

The Explore! Mission Mobile is a STEM-aligned mobile simulator in which students work together as the crew of a ship to complete a mission. Students exercise key 21st century skills while on board, including collaboration, communication and problem-solving.

ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY

Over 700 students and teachers have participated in Mission Mobile pilot programs, with 90% of students calling the experience "fun," "awesome," or "exciting."

SCHEDULING A VISIT

The Mission Mobile is designed for 4th-6th graders and can accommodate 5-17 students per 75-minute mission. Pre-visit materials and complementary activities are available upon request. Email rachel@wdckids.org to request your visit.

"This Mission Mobile is a phenomenal way of teaching team work...it is a valuable experience because students get to solve problems without the teacher telling them how to."

-6th grade DCPS teacher

"I had so much fun I did not want to leave the bus."

-5th grade student



Created in partnership with the Smithsonian Institution and
The George Washington University.