ADKX Large Group Pathways

The Adirondack Experience; the Museum in Blue Mountain Lake, is best experienced in small groups. It is no fun for students to stand in line waiting for a turn at a popular interactive exhibit. Pathways are a tool to help large groups find different spots to start a self-guided tour of the museum.

Each Pathway starts at a different exhibition building. While touring that exhibition the students and their chaperone will, if they choose, complete a challenge. Challenges are fun activities intended to involve students in creating their own museum learning experience. To complete most of the challenges, the chaperone (or students) will need to use a smartphone, as they may need one or more of the following:

- Camera
- Video recorder
- Audio recorder
- Compass
- Internet connection
- QR reader

After touring the exhibition and completing a challenge the group will continue on to another exhibition building, continue to self-guide, and enjoy the museum at their own pace.

Use student challenges as a record of what the students saw and learned during their field trip. Set up an email or webpage for challenges to be downloaded and shared after the trip.
Pathway 1 – Whiteface Tower

Start your Adirondack Experience adventure at the Whiteface Mountain Tower.

Enhance your visit to this exhibit with an orienteering challenge: You will need a compass. Apple iPhones come with a compass app built in; other phones may need the Compass app downloaded.

Primary – Find the four points of the compass. Take a photo in each direction.

Secondary – Find the next exhibit using your compass.
1. Line up your compass to the heading 245°W.
2. Lock that in by tapping the center of the compass (most apps). The heading will become bold.
3. Follow that compass heading. As you walk around the compass will track your direction and draw a red arc to show how much you are deviating away from your target. That is okay, you will need to go around obstacles like trees or down stairs. Just get back to following that heading after you go around.
4. Your target is the first exhibit building that is in the direction of heading 245°W. Where did you end up? (Hint: It’s not Work in the Woods.)
5. Another tap on the compass screen should unlock that heading.

Enjoy your visit to the Adirondack Experience! Please, keep groups small. If you see another group of students at an exhibit or in the store, return a little later so you can enjoy that area fully without having to wait in line.

 Marks where your group will meet at the end of the day.
Pathway 2 – Boats & Boating

Start your Adirondack Experience adventure at Boats & Boating.

Enhance your visit to this exhibit by practicing descriptive language: You will need a voice recorder; there are plenty of free apps available for your phone.

Primary – Have each member of the group choose a boat as their favorite. Each group member will use only verbal descriptions to see if the rest of the group can figure out which boat is being described. Recording descriptions for other groups is an option.

Secondary – Before television, photography, and internet became easy and inexpensive; advertisers used catalogs and then radio to sell their merchandise. Catalogs and radio use written or verbal descriptions. Record a radio advertisement to sell one of the boats in the exhibit.

Scan here to hear an example:

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Start your Adirondack Experience adventure at The Marion River Carry Pavilion.

Enhance your visit to this exhibit by recording a video explaining or showing something.

Primary - Record a video of students explaining what something is or how to do something. Here are some examples:

- Using the rope knot display explain how to tie a bowknot.
- Explain what types of fish are in the pond.
- Describe the path of steamboats on Blue Mountain and Raquette Lakes.

Secondary – Record a video of something that describes or shows a vocabulary word. When you return to school use giphy.com or a similar site to create a GIF.

Here is an example:

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Pathway 4 – Work in the Woods

Start your Adirondack Experience adventure at Work in the Woods.

Enhance your visit to this exhibit by presenting factual information: You will be recording a video.

Primary – Video each member of the group explaining information they have discovered in the exhibit. For example, they may want to answer these types of questions:
- What are log stamps and how were they used?
- Why was being a logger so dangerous?
- Who is Smokey Bear?

Secondary – Create a newscast of an exciting or disastrous event. Remember newscasts should be presenting facts that answer who, what, where, when, and how. Some events you will find with information in the exhibit:
- The invention of the Baringer brake.
- The use of dynamite to blow up a logjam.
- An industrial accident.
- A forest fire.

Scan here for an example:

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Start your Adirondack Experience adventure at the Reising School House.

Enhance your visit to this exhibit with by testing your skills just as students did long ago. Reising School House is a one-room school. Inside are writing and elocution lessons. Outside students can try historic games played during recess.

Primary – Have a Spell Down; a spelling match that begins with all the contestants standing and ends when all but one have been forced to sit down after misspelling a word. Need spelling words for your grade level, scan the QR code:

Secondary – Ready for recess? Practice using the tops. It takes a little practice to learn to spin them then rewind them for the next turn. Once students have mastered the tops have a top race. Students from long ago did not wear a watch. To measure how long the tops continue to spin sing. How many stanzas of “This Old Man” can you sing before your top falls?

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Start your Adirondack Experience adventure at Woods & Waters.

Enhance your visit to this exhibition by listening to a podcast episode:

First, you will need to make sure you have a Wi-Fi connection. Use the network titled ADKX; it is the museum's guest Wi-Fi. You will need to agree to the terms and conditions. The QR code on the left will take you to the ADKX-tra Credit podcast.

Primary – Below are listed episodes that have a related exhibit in this building. Choose one to learn more:

- Episode 8: The Beaver Hat
- Episode 9: The Last Adirondack Wolf?
- Episode 18: Black Fly Season
- Episode 24: 1932 Winter Olympic Games

Secondary – We are always looking for more topics to explore on our podcast. Help us out by sharing something that made you wonder. Follow this QR code to a request form and give us some suggestions for a future podcast:

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Enhance your visit to this exhibit by exploring the people and events in Adirondack history. Life in the Adirondacks is our largest exhibition space. There is a lot to see and do. With so many videos, objects, and interactive exhibits it is easy to overlook the small or hidden.

- Why Do You Love The Adirondacks? - - This display is up high so many people miss it. Add your photo and write why you love your favorite spot.
- Explore the Collection - - There are three kiosks available to look at our Online Collection Database. Students can look at objects (some that are not even on display) and photos.
- Hear Our Native Languages - - Listen to the Mohawk and Abenaki languages being spoken.
- Anne Labastille’s Cabin - - Students will explore the life of the famous Adirondack Woodswoman through the items in her cabin.
- How Do You Rough It? - - This fun interactive lets you imagine yourself in one of our historic photos.
- Minerals Magnified - - Use the Micro-eye magnifier to get a close look at minerals that have been mined in the Adirondacks.

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