

Alabama Digital Learning

Virtual Field Trips, March 2026



The Alabama State Department of Education (SDE) invites you to participate in our popular monthly Virtual Field Trips. Alabama has been a trailblazer using technology for the purpose of advancing education. Alabama Connecting Classrooms, Educators, and Students Statewide (ACCESS), Alabama Learning Exchange (ALEX), Alabama Technology in Motion (ATiM), and e-Learning for Educators are all strong tools used for the advancement of digital learning, in addition to the expansive ways technology is used in the classroom.

We will continue to use ZOOM as our delivery format. To use ZOOM: Create a free account and download the ZOOM app to your computer; or go to zoom.us and click on “Join a Meeting”. Check with your technology coordinator to see what options you might have to display the conference on a TV or big screen. You may need a stand-alone mic if your computer does not have one. If you’d like to do any testing or have questions you may contact Alabama Super Computer Help Desk at 1-800-338-8320.

Below is a listing of events we have to date. This document may be found at <http://bit.ly/ALVFTMar26> or all of the schedules from February 2021 forward may be found at <https://bit.ly/ALVFTHome>. You may sign up for the current month’s Virtual Field Trips at <http://bit.ly/ALVFTsignupMar26>

| Date | Time | Session Name |
|-----------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 3/5/2026 | 9:00-10:00 AM | Colors of the Sea: Thanks to the Greenies! |
| 3/5/2026 | 10:15-11:15 AM | Colors of the Sea: THanks to the Greenies! |
| 3/18/2026 | 9:00-10:00 AM | Movement and Motion |
| 3/18/2026 | 10:15-11:15 AM | Careers in the NFL |
| 3/19/2026 | 9:00-10:00 AM | Georgia Gilmore and the Civil Rights Movement |
| 3/19/2026 | 10:15-11:15 AM | Georgia Gilmore and the Civil Rights Movement |
| 3/24/2026 | 9:00-10:00 AM | A Journey Into the Life of Helen keller |
| 3/24/2026 | 10:15-11:15 AM | Let's Explore Your Eyes and How They Work |
| 3/25/2026 | 9:00-10:00 AM | Georgia Gilmore and the Civil Rights Movement |
| 3/25/2026 | 10:15-11:15 AM | Georgia Gilmore and the Civil Rights Movement |
| 3/26/2026 | 9:00-10:00 AM | Careers in the NFL |
| 3/26/2026 | 10:15-11:15 AM | Movement and Motion |

Please leave your classroom cameras on if possible. Presenters very much appreciate seeing the students they are presenting to.

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A Journey Into the Life of Helen Keller

Keller Johnson-Thompson, Vice President of the Helen Keller Foundation

March 24, 9:00-10:00 AM

Grades K-5

Keller Johnson Thompson, great grand niece of Helen Keller and Vice President of the Helen Keller Foundation for Research and Education, takes students on a marvelous journey into the amazing life of Helen Keller, America's First Lady of Courage. From her early days in Tuscumbia, Alabama to her travels around the world, Helen Keller not only lived a wonderful and full life despite being deaf and blind, but she also inspired others to make a positive difference in the world around them. Through this journey, it is hoped that students not only learn many new things about Helen Keller, but more importantly, it is hoped that students will see and understand the need to have good values and character, as Helen Keller did.

Careers in the NFL

Jerry Csaki, Senior Director of Education and Leadership, Pro Football Hall of Fame

March 18, 9:00-10:00 AM

March 26, 10:15-11:15 AM

Grades 5-12

This program examines the importance of education and the hundreds of careers available in and around the National Football League. A 10-minute career video, which examines a wide variety of careers with the San Francisco 49ers organization, is shown during this session. The 50-minute program, which is designed to be highly interactive, is supplemented by a lesson aligned with Common Core/National Standards of Education and is recommended for Grades 5-12.

Classroom Activity: <https://alvft.link/nflcareers>

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A Neighborhood Hero: Georgia Gilmore and the Civil Rights Movement

Jake Smith, Education Curator, Alabama Department of Archives & History

March 19, 9:00-10:00 AM

March 19, 10:15-11:15 AM

March 25, 9:00-10:00 AM

March 25, 10:15-11:15 AM

Grades 3-6

You've heard of Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King Jr., and many famous names of the Montgomery Bus Boycott. In this presentation, we'll cover one of the lesser known names. Join us to hear more about Georgia Gilmore: a mother, a chef, and an example of the stories under the surface of our shared history. Students will learn about:

- Georgia Gilmore's early life
- The importance of foodways and domestic work to social movements
- The boycott as an expression of community
- Gilmore's continued community work

Standards:

- **SS24.5.12a**- Describe ways in which the Civil Rights Movement sought to create change.
 - **SS24.5.12c** - Describe the contributions of Alabama leaders and foot soldiers of the Civil Rights Movement as well as other Alabamian supporters who aided their efforts.
 - **SS24.5.12e** - Identify Alabamians who contributed to concurrent civil rights movements in the United States during the decades following World War II.
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Let's Explore Your Eyes and How They Work

Keller Johnson-Thompson, Vice President of the Helen Keller Foundation

March 24, 10:15-11:15 AM

Grades 1-6

Of all our senses, vision is perhaps the most important. This virtual field trip takes you into the world of vision as we explore our eyes and how they work, first aid for eye injuries, and vision problems that may occur. We will also explore the eyes of different animals, such as seeing who has the best sight and the worst sight and why.



Color of the Sea: Thanks to the Greenies!

Kyle Halstead, Discovery Hall Programs Educator

March 5, 9:00-10:00 AM

March 5, 10:15-11:15 AM

The 9 am presentation will be geared towards younger students (K-5) while the 10:15 am presentation will be more suitable for students in middle and high school.

Why is the ocean blue? When is it not blue? If it's brown, pinkish, whitish or green, what does this tell us? The ocean is full of living things that can give it color. Join us to chat about ocean color and the processes and plankton that can give it color. You'll discover why we owe our existence to some very small green things in the ocean and why the ocean is truly a pot of gold for humans!"

Suitable audience: The program **Colors of the Sea** is appropriate for all grades. A downloadable poster on ocean plankton can be found [here](#).

Movement and Motion

Jerry Csaki, Senior Director of Education and Leadership, Pro Football Hall of Fame

March 18, 10:15-11:15 AM

March 26, 9:00-10:00 AM

Grades 5-12

This program examines the relationship of science and the game of professional football. Straight line movement, zig-zags, circular motion, back & forth, pushing & pulling - all movements that influence the sport. This 50-minute program, which is designed to be highly interactive, is supplemented by a lesson aligned with Common Core/National Standards of Education and is recommended for Grades 1-5.

Supplemental Materials:

- [Classroom Activity](#)
- [Supplemental Video](#)

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