

A black steam locomotive, numbered 10, is the central focus of the image. It is a Granite Rock Co. engine, as indicated by the text on its side. The locomotive is emitting a large plume of white steam from its smokestack and is kicking up a cloud of brown dust from its wheels. It is positioned on a set of tracks. In the foreground, a young boy in a red jacket, blue cap, and backpack stands on a yellow tactile paving strip, looking up at the locomotive. Other people are visible in the background, including a man in a blue shirt and another person in a white shirt. The scene is set outdoors with trees and a clear blue sky.

Self-Guided Field Trip to the California State Railroad Museum

A Social Narrative

Today I am going on a field trip to the California State Railroad Museum.



I will get to see many different types of trains and learn about railroad history.

When I arrive to the museum, I may hear loud noises like cars and train horns.



I will walk to the school entrance of the museum and wait for someone to let us in. There might be other groups outside, which may be noisy.



Restrooms

While I wait, there are restrooms outside that I can use before going in.

When I enter the museum, a staff member will lead us to an area to sit down and go over the rules before we begin our visit.



Before I begin, I will go over important rules:



I stay with my group
and wait for directions.



It is important that I don't bring
food and drinks but water is okay.



The play area on the 3rd floor is
for children under 5 years old
and is off limits to my group.



I am going to only walk through the
museum, and not climb on the exhibits.



After I leave the museum, I
will not be able to re-enter.

As I walk around the Museum, I will see staff or volunteers who can help me with my visit and can guide me if I get separated from my group.



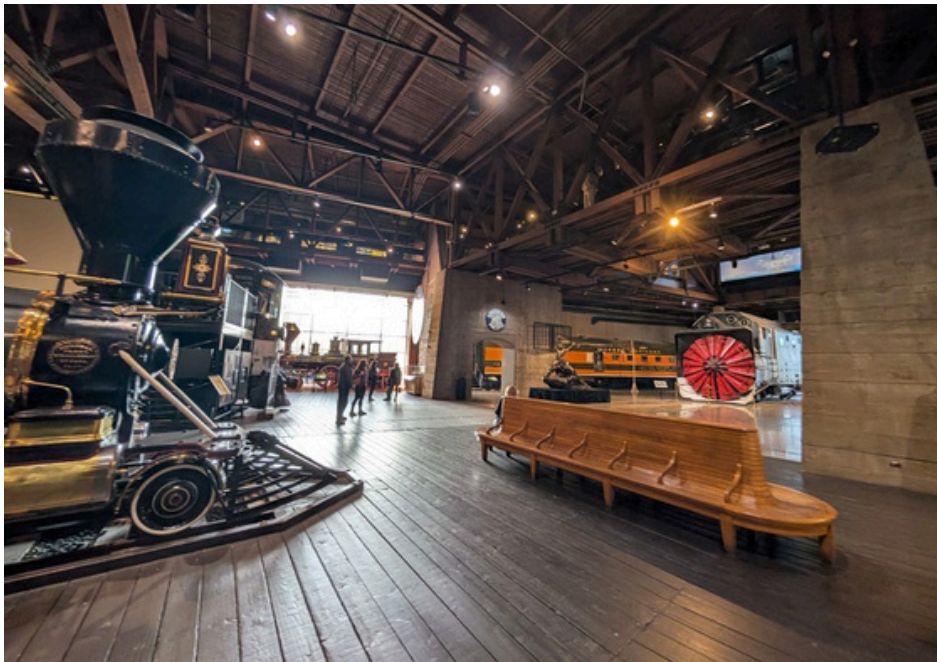
Most staff wear a tan colored State Parks uniform, and volunteers wear a white shirt and black pants.

If I feel overwhelmed during my visit, I will let my group leader know.



There is help available and a sensory tool bag to help me feel calm.

I will explore the Museum with my group.
There will be many large train equipment,
and noises playing throughout many parts of the Museum.



If I brought headphones, the headphone signs tell me these areas maybe loud. There are quiet areas I can ask my group leader to take me to, if I need a break.



I can go inside some of trains with my group, these are:



Cochiti Dining Car



Fruit Growers Express
Produce Car



RPO Mail Car



Cab Forward Locomotive



These cars have a
wheelchair lift

The *St. Hyacinth* sleeper car is another one I can walk through.



Inside the car



The car has a rocking motion, flashing lights, and dinging noises inside.

If this car feels too overwhelming to me,
I can ask my group leader to guide me to the dining car.

I can access the second and third floors through the stairs or an elevator.

I may go to the second floor of the Museum, which has hands-on activities, like chalkboards and design planks. This area can get crowded and loud.



If I explore the third floor, I will find exhibits about toy trains that I can view.



If my teacher/chaperone says it's ok, I can stop by the Museum Store as I am leaving the Museum.



There are items I can buy to remember my time at the California State Railroad Museum.

I had a great day at the California State Railroad Museum. Knowing what to expect made it fun and easy.



I can't wait to go back!

Teacher's Guide

- The museum may get noisy, so remind the students to bring headphones.
- If you forget, KultureCity® Sensory Bags are available at the front desk. These include weighted lap blankets, noise-canceling headphones, and fidget tools. Wheelchairs are also available to check out. Both are first-come, first-served.
- Restrooms are located on all three floors. The main floor restroom near the sleeper car is wheelchair accessible. The restroom on the second floor is typically less crowded.
- If the student prefers to skip *St. Hyacinth* sleeper car, then they can enter the dining car by going up the stairs just past the benches.
- Quiet areas are available in the waiting room of the telegraph station and in the National Model Railroad Association exhibit on the third floor.
- If your group needs special accommodations, please contact us at Groupdesk.CSRM@parks.ca.gov.

