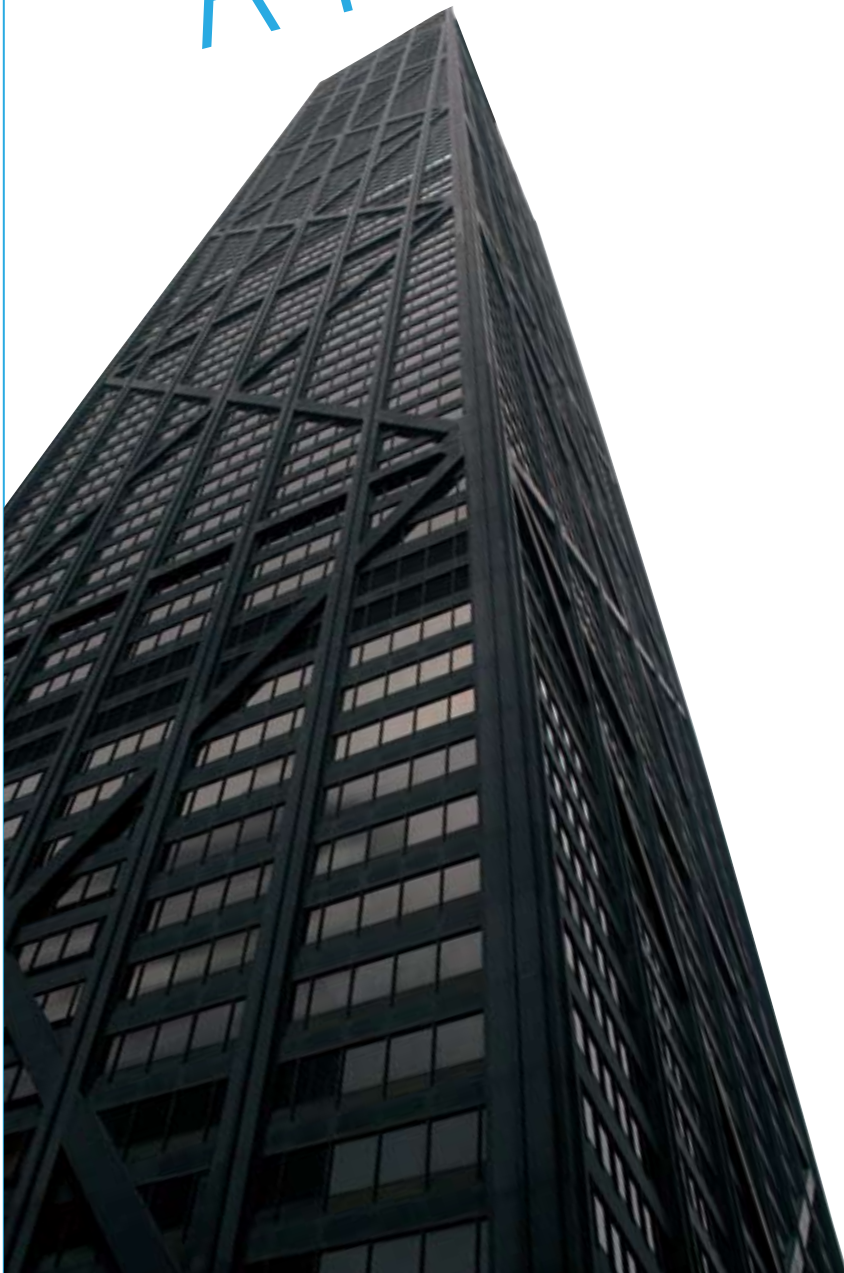


TAKE LEARNING TO
A HIGHER LEVEL.



Plan a field trip that's
educational and fun for
all ages, 1,000ft high
in the heart of Chicago.

John
Hancock
Observatory



Group reservations (312) 654-5019 or (877) 875-6940

We've put this teacher activity guide together to help you make the most of your class trip. Take what you want from it. But most of all, don't forget to have a good time.

A trip to John Hancock Observatory is a great way to learn more about geography, science, history, architecture and social studies.

Trivia

Kids love fun facts, so try these for size...

- ▶ John Hancock Center opened in 1970.
- ▶ It took five years to construct.
- ▶ The building contains enough steel to make 33,000 cars...
- ▶ ...And enough aluminium to cover 12 football fields.
- ▶ There are 11,459 windows equivalent to a 5-foot sheet 13 miles long.
- ▶ John Hancock Observatory is on the 94th floor but there are 100 floors in total.

Landmarks

Our innovative multimedia tour – complete with kids' version – covers all the major landmarks you can see from the observatory. But you might want to know some of the more important ones before you arrive.

- ▶ Probably the first site you'll see is Lake Michigan, the second largest of the Great Lakes. It's 321 miles long, covers 22,000 miles and has a maximum depth of 923 feet.
- ▶ If you look to the right you can see Navy Pier and the Ferris Wheel.
- ▶ [Tell your class] "See those long, thin piers out in the lake? They are called breakwaters – they stop the waves from getting too big."
- ▶ Look out the south windows and you can see the Chicago River, Northerly Island, Soldier Field, the Tribune Tower and Sears Tower.
- ▶ Look southwest and you can see the United Center where the Chicago Bulls and Chicago Blackhawks play.
- ▶ Look to the west and you can see Goose Island – the only island in Chicago. Further out, you can see O'Hare International Airport on a clear day.
- ▶ Look to the north and you get a great view of the lakefront and Oak St Beach. Further round to the left are Lincoln Park, the lagoon and zoo. Straight up Lake Shore Drive you can see the Montrose Ave horseshoe where fishermen catch salmon, coho and perch.

Fun activities

A ride in America's fastest elevators

Tell the kids to buckle up! (Okay there are no seatbelts but you get what we mean.) Our elevators move at 1,800 feet per minute, meaning it takes only 39 seconds to reach the 94th floor!

Daring photo opportunities

We have two photo displays on the north side of the observatory where your students can take pictures of themselves, either having lunch on a steel beam or washing windows up high.

Walk on the wild side

Let the kids walk 1,000 feet up in the air where there's no glass – just screens. They'll love the exhilaration of the wind in their hair and the noises from the streets below rushing through their ears.

Fun learning

Dramatic history wall

This is where kids can find out how Chicago got its name, who the early settlers were and when Chicago became a city. They can learn about the Great Fire of 1871, the legend of Mrs O'Leary's cow and how engineers reversed the flow of the river.

Pop quiz

Keep the kids busy, hunting for answers to these humdingers. We've repeated the questions (without the answers!) on page 4, so all you have to do is print off the exact number of copies you need.

1. How many rooftop swimming pools can you find? [A: 13]
2. From which direction do you see the Kennedy Expressway? [A: West]
3. Can you find the Rock 'n Roll McDonalds?
4. When did Chicago become a city? [A: 1837]
5. How deep is Lake Michigan? [A: 923ft]
6. Can you find Chicago's first ferris wheel and name its location? [A: Navy Pier]
7. What was the name of Chicago's first skyscraper? [A: The Home Insurance Building]
8. In what year did the Great Chicago Fire occur? [A: 1871]
9. Whose cow was blamed for starting the Great Chicago Fire? [A: Mr & Mrs O'Leary]
10. How long does the elevator ride take to get up to John Hancock Observatory? [A: 40 seconds]
11. True or false: In the year 1900 city engineers reversed the flow of the Chicago River?
[A: TRUE – That's because, as the city was growing in the 1800's, a lot of sludge and garbage ended up the Chicago River and the river flowed into Lake Michigan, where Chicago get's it's drinking water.]
12. On a clear day how many states can you see from the John Hancock Observatory?
[A: Four – Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, and Indiana]
13. How many floors above Michigan Avenue is John Hancock Observatory? [A: 94 floors up]

Group reservations (312) 751-9722

John Hancock Observatory
875 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611

Name _____ Date _____

1. How many rooftop swimming pools can you find? _____
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3. Can you find the Rock 'n Roll McDonalds? _____
4. When did Chicago become a city? _____
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9. Whose cow was blamed for starting the Great Chicago Fire? _____
10. How long does the elevator ride take to get up to John Hancock Observatory? _____
11. In the year 1900 city engineers reversed the flow of the Chicago River. ____ True ____ False
12. On a clear day how many states can you see from the John Hancock Observatory? _____
13. How many floors above Michigan Avenue is John Hancock Observatory? _____

Exercises

1. Record the temperature, wind speed and wind direction. (Hint: step out on the Skywalk.)

2. What do you like best about the observatory? Tell me in 3 or 4 sentences.

3. Find the quote on the history wall you like best.

4. Write your own quote about the observatory.

5. Design your own skyscraper. (You can use the back of this page.)

POP QUIZ

