

# Excellent Virtual Field Trips and Field Research Sites

## Virtual Fieldtrips

- **Discovery Channel Virtual Fieldtrips:** FREE! Comes with companion guide of hands-on learning activities. <https://www.discoveryeducation.com/community/virtual-field-trips/>
- **Yellowstone National Park** site has 17 video tours that cover geothermal, wildlife, and historical features of the park. The site is designed for students in grades 5–8 and includes an “Ask an Expert” component. <http://www.windowstowonderland.org>
- **Parks Online Resources for Teachers/Students (PORTS)** Interactive units of study for Environmental, Wildlife and Historical topics at CA State Parks. Very comprehensive. <http://www.ports.parks.ca.gov/>
- **SKYPE** in the Classroom: Collaborate with other classes, no matter where they are; find guest speakers and invite them into your classroom or *take a virtual field trip anywhere in the world*. Free group video calling. <https://education.microsoft.com/skype-in-the-classroom/virtual-field-trips>
- **NOVA Online Adventure:** students explore the Galapagos Islands in an interactive format. <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/evolution/explore-galapagos.html>
- **NASA** has a wealth of resources, including the interactive features, A-Z websites for educators; Kids Club [https://www.nasa.gov/audience/foreducators/Alpha\\_index.html](https://www.nasa.gov/audience/foreducators/Alpha_index.html)
- **Smithsonian “Ecosystems on the Edge”** explore 14 different topics through videos, satellite broadcasts and data samples. <https://ecosystemsontheedge.org/>
- **PBS Learning Media** - Explore natural phenomena and scientific practices with videos, lesson plans, and interactive tools. <https://ca.pbslearningmedia.org/subjects/science/>
- **Wildlife Ecology in San Guillermo National Park, Argentina.** Become a wildlife ecologist and study the relationship between predators and their prey in the high Andes of South America. The activities below will introduce you to Emiliano Donadio and his research on pumas and vicunas. <https://www.uwyo.edu/scienceposse/research-into-classroom/field-ecology-san-guillermo/index.html>
- **360 degrees Geologic Expedition** Earth Science truly interactive trip to the Column of the giants, from Science Friday. <https://www.sciencefriday.com/educational-resources/360-degree-expedition/>
- **Explore the Estuary:** If your students are studying the tides, ocean, or water dwellers, this is an excellent site. It includes video tours. <http://www.estuarylive.org/>
- **The JASON Project** (Now "Jason Learning", with complete immersive phenomenon-based learning.) This many-faceted site hopes to "put the thrill of discovery back into the classroom." It offers several different trips, including one that follows a crew living aboard the space station. <https://www.jason.org/>
- **Reach the World** Follow different students journeys as they do research in different parts of the world, complete with logbook, field notes and interaction with interested students following the **explorations**. <http://www.reachtheworld.org>
- **CA Academy of Sciences** Learn and explore. Choose scientific expeditions to travel to all parts of the world, taking students with them as they survey, collect data, analyze biodiversity. <https://www.calacademy.org/learn-explore>  
**Example:** [Malaysia Urban Rainforest Survey](#) Videos, blogs, photos, field notes
- **Virtual Field Trips** If you're looking for a museum trip, here's an online list <http://www.theteachersguide.com/virtualtours.html> - [Museums](#)

## Field Research Sites

- **LIMPETS** Long-term Monitoring Program and Experiential Training for Students  
<http://limpets.org/>
- **National Geographic “Habitats” website** – explore 8 world habitats and research critical problems, news, take action online  
<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/earth-habitats/?source=NavEnvHab>
- **The Globe Program** enables your class to engage in a collaborative, scientific exploration of the world around you, collaborating with other teachers and students from around the world.  
<https://www.globe.gov/>
- **EcoHelpers Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area** is a curriculum-based and focuses on science principles learned through hands-on restoration activities including non-native invasive plants and restoring native plants, which will improve the habitat for wildlife in the Santa Monica Mountains.  
<https://www.nps.gov/teachers/classrooms/ecohelpers-service-learning-program.htm>
- **Colorado Lagoon, Long Beach**, provides FREE field-based nature education programs and customized field research opportunities, including a wide array of equipment.  
<http://www.coloradolagoon.org/education.html>