



4th Grade



Connecting school and home through family learning!

To enhance your child's study of the **Earth, Sun and Moon**, be sure to plan a visit to the Rock Creek Planetarium. The 75-seat planetarium introduces the **solar system** and integrates Native American legends about stars, too!

Also grab a "discovery pack" from the park and visit the surrounding nature trails – a great way to study **plants** and the **ecosystem** (some other 4th grade science topics!). www.nps.gov/rocr/

The "Discovery Room" at the Museum of Natural History is a great way to build up your child's **investigation skills!** Programs are developed from exhibition themes and emphasize comparing and contrasting objects, closely examining specimens such as fossils, skulls, and shells, and using evidence to draw conclusions.
www.mnh.si.edu

Virginia History is an important part of 4th grade studies! The DAR Museum has a great Colonial Adventure program, a special guided tour that describes life in **Colonial America**. Kids even dress the part in appropriate Colonial attire!
(www.dar.org/museum).

Sully Historic Site demonstrates life during the **Federal Period**, allowing kids to see and experience some of the hardships endured by people living two centuries ago. The museum also hosts special events at least one weekend a month.
(www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully)

If you can't make it to Monticello, then be sure to visit the **Thomas Jefferson Memorial** to learn more about this famous Virginian! The "Light and Liberty" exhibit (on the memorial's lower level) provides highlights of Jefferson's life, a timeline of world history during his lifetime and a 10-minute video. His writings about freedom and government adorn the marble walls surrounding his statue.
(www.nps.gov/thje)

With frequently rotating exhibits, the National Geographic Museum is a must-see for the latest expeditions, adventures and discoveries in science and geography. Exhibits are well-researched, very visual, modern, fun and (mostly) child-appropriate. Be sure to check the website before you go!
(www.namuseum.org)