

## Inside the L.C. Bates Museum

### Visiting Children Can Explore NISE Earth and Space Activities

#### Volunteers Needed for Leading Tours and Boxing Collections

#### Colby Museum Practicum

A Colby College spring semester seminar, a museum practicum, lead by Prof. Veronique Plesch is researching specific collections in the museum and creating a museum website with the results of their work. The unveiling of the website is scheduled for Friday, May 8 at 12:30 pm in Parker-Reed in the Schair-Swenson-Watson Alumni Center. Students offer a presentation of their research and website for the public. The website will be designed to inform all about the amazing museum collections and encourage museum visitation. The students, pictured at right with their professors, are involved in different fields of study. They find the diverse LCB collections includes objects that support their many interests and studies.



Hundreds of interesting documents, like the scrapbook pictured, and photographs that record the history of GWH are being housed and cataloged by Lisa and Tim.



Newsletter Nature Fact



**Red Breasted Merganser**  
The red-breasted merganser is a diving duck that can be found across the United States. Their thin "sawbill" has small serrations that help them catch fish.



Fresh early spring greens! Good Will boy, Thomas Kobchick enjoying digging up a basket full of dandelion greens in the fields near the Kennebec River. From the GWH Archives.



Making a cloud in a bottle and exploring the cloud's properties provides engaging STEAM learning for young visitors.

We ask young visitors, "What is your favorite mineral or rock in the museum?" And, 80% of the time they quickly say amethyst. When you ask why, they say they like the color and the way it shines.



#### New Self-Guided Bird Activities Great Fun For Families

The museum has received Discovery Grant support from the Onion Foundation for two new bird discovery boxes and backpacks for families and visiting classes or groups. The very hands on activities build knowledge about our regional birdlife and encourage outdoor bird walks. In spring when the birds return come check out a backpack. The packs include a form to record the names of the bird species you see or hear while on your hike. The forest trail behind the museum and pond area are home to many birds that are here all year long or that will be returning soon. Exploring the bird life along the trails and new song bird and raptor discovery boxes can be a wonderful experience for the whole family.



#### Museum Happenings

The new 2020 NISE Earth and Space activities have arrived and some are out daily for visitors to try. They include exploring clouds, learning about asteroids, exploring gravity, investigating how stars are formed and more. Different projects are designed for different ages, but all are fun for families. On May 16 we will have a Earth and Space Day using most of the science activities and games.

Museum educators are now visiting Waterville and Oakland schools' second grades with a series of STEAM science programs focused on natural history and the local environment.

#### When winter snow covers the lion, the Caged Lion outdoor sculpture by Bernard Langlais takes on a new look.



**Friends of L.C. Bates Museum Annual Appeal 2020** Every gift to the L.C. Bates Museum benefits our Maine community. Please consider making a contribution, and know that your gifts of any amount are greatly appreciated and tax deductible.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
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I want to make a donation for the 2020 Friends of L.C. Bates Museum Annual Appeal for the amount of: \_\_\_\_\_  
Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_. Please make checks payable to Friends of L.C. Bates Museum

Thank you for Supporting the L.C. Bates.  
Please mail your kind donation to:

Friends of L.C. Bates Museum, P. O. Box 159, Hinckley, ME 04944, 207-238-4250, [lcbates@gwh.org](mailto:lcbates@gwh.org)

#### Upcoming Events in March

##### Saturday, March 7, 10:30 AM- 11:30 AM **Bugs, Bugs, Bugs**

Explore the insect collections in the museum and learn about their special adaptations and life cycles. Try hands on activities to learn how insects walk with six legs, see with many lenses, pollinate flowers and camouflage. Examine invasive insects like the Emerald Ash Borer and learn about our local winter insects. Have fun making an insect craft to take home.

##### From March 14th until the 17th—**Saint Patrick's Day Scavenger Hunt**

(Anytime during open hours) **Hunt for the Green!**  
In honor of Saint Patrick's day go on a hunt for the green in the museum. Enjoy a fun scavenger hunt and receive a small green prize at the end.

##### Saturday, March 14, 10:30 AM- 11:30 AM **Maine Mammals**

Mammal pelts, skulls, tracks and scat and of course the many mammals in the museum will provide an engaging look at Maine's popular mammals. Discover how the different mammals adapt to our wetland, forest and ocean habitats. Make a mammal track game and mammal craft.

**Thursday, March 19, Spring Equinox**) Drop in to the museum to tour animals and birds that like us are waiting for spring. The spring equinox is on March 19<sup>th</sup>, but it often does not look like spring to us here in the northern latitudes! But there are signs of spring everywhere we look if we know some of nature's secrets. Come see a few of the amazing warmer ready and waiting to burst into spring around you! Many will soon be returning from warmer climates or coming out of their winter homes. Explore a NISE Earth and Space Kit.

##### Saturday, March 21, 10:30 AM-11:30 AM **Tour the Dioramas and make your own small Bird Habitat Diorama**

Visit the museum Charles D. Hubbard dioramas and then create a background for your own bird diorama. Learn to identify the birds in the dioramas by sound and sight.

##### Saturday, March 28, 10:30 AM **Skulls: from Moose to Bats**

From the very large Moose skull to the tiny skull of the bats in Maine, see the amazing variety of skulls that are in the collections and discuss what you can discover from skulls! Learn about carnivores, herbivores and omnivores.

**Young visitors can try a New Earth and Space Kit activity and make a craft when they visit the museum. There are museum scavenger hunts that explore the different collections. The hunts include Raptors, Maine minerals, Birds that Fish, Australian Animals and more. All are designed to help you explore the museum collections. They are great fun for the whole family.**

**Trail Maps that guide you on the GWH Trails that begin near the museum are available in the museum. And, remember you can picnic at tables behind the museum. Come have fun exploring the museum, having a picnic and then going for a walk on the forested nature trails.**

#### Join the fun! Become a Friends of L.C. Bates Museum member!

##### Member Benefits

- Announcements and invitations to events and exhibit openings
- Museum Newsletter
- Free admission to the museum
- 10% discount at the museum gift shop!

[Click here](#), go to the museum's website [www.gwh.org/lcbates](http://www.gwh.org/lcbates) or call the museum for information and a membership request form.

Interested in making a contribution to the museum? Contact us at [lcbates@gwh.org](mailto:lcbates@gwh.org) or 207-238-4250 if you would like to know about making a donation to the museum. Your donations help make the museum possible!

#### Museum Hours and Admission Fees

April to Mid-November - Wed., Thurs., Fri. & Sat.: 10am to 4:30pm  
Sun: 1pm to 4:30pm and other times by appointment

November to March - Open by appointment or chance, usually Wed. - Sat. 9am to 4:30pm and Sunday 1 to 4:30 PM

Adults \$3.00  
Youth Under 18 \$1.00  
Group Rates

*Become a museum member and get free admission!*

**Looking for something special? The museum offers group tours, outreach programs and birthday parties! For a full list of our offerings or more information please email**

#### L.C. Bates Museum

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