

Minnesota Cyber School Students Participate in Field Trips

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Agency: **Wowza**



MTS Minnesota Connections Academy, [ConnectionsAcademy.com](#), a free online school for K-12 students, has planned seven field trips during October to encourage students and staff to come together to learn and socialize.

The students, who attend public school online through MTS Minnesota Connections Academy, use the field trips to come together, support the principles and theories presented in the students' lessons, and socialize with other MTS Minnesota Connections Academy students and parents.

Faculty and students from the Minnesota virtual school have already participated in three of the seven field trips, two college fairs and a fall sports spectacular, which provided students with the opportunity to learn about and play various athletic events.

The remaining four field trips include:

- Nordic Ridge in Bovey, Minnesota
Participants will take a tour of the farm and stop at several activity stations, go through a corn maze, and try out the haystack jump.
- Minnesota Center for Book Arts in Minneapolis, Minnesota
Students will tour The Minnesota Center for Book Arts in Minneapolis to learn how books are made, from pulp to paper to printing.
- Minnesota Zoo and the Great Clips IMAX Theatre in Apple Valley, Minnesota
Participants will watch a 3-D show about dolphins and whales before touring the Minnesota Zoo.
- J & L Bison Range in Willmar, Minnesota
Minnesota Connections Academy faculty, students and their families will take a bus tour of the 200-acre ranch, which is home to 300 bison, to see the bison up close and learn about the mammals.

Minnesota Connections Academy, with its headquarters in Minneapolis, Minn., combines state-certified teachers, high-quality curriculum, unique technology tools, an extensive selection of electives and clubs and community experiences to create an individualized alternative to the brick-and-mortar classroom. The curriculum is aligned to meet or exceed Minnesota academic standards. Students also participate in state standardized testing.

Connections Academy is designed to meet the needs of students and their families who are looking for a unique public school option—those who need a flexible schedule, learn at a different pace from their peers, need more individualized attention or live in isolated rural settings. Homebound and previously home-schooled students can also thrive in the program. Connections Academy operates its full-time Internet school program in Minnesota through a partnership with Minnesota Transitions Charter School.

Families interested in free online school with some similarities to home schooling, but with the support of state-certified teachers and the accountability of public education are encouraged to learn more by calling 800-382-6010 or visiting

Connections Academy online.

Connections Academy is a leading national provider of high quality, highly accountable virtual public schools in 13 states operated in partnership with charter schools, school districts, and state departments of education. Connections Academy schools deliver top-quality, personalized education for students that combines certified teachers, a proven curriculum, technology tools, and community experiences to create a supportive and successful environment for children who want an individualized approach to education. In Connections Academy's unique Personalized Performance Learning® approach, students use daily lesson plans and curriculum materials provided by Connections Academy. Teachers develop a learning plan for each student, whose progress is tracked through a proprietary, web-based Learning Management System. In 2008-09 Connections Academy will serve students in Arizona, California (Southern and Central), Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Minnesota, Missouri (through the Missouri Virtual Instruction Program), Nevada, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and Wisconsin. In 2008-09 Connections Academy will offer grades K through 12, though some schools do not offer all grades. For more information, call 800-382-6010 or visit www.ConnectionsAcademy.com.

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