

SUN n FUN[®]

EXPO CAMPUS

Aerospace Expo Field Trip Guide

Dear Educator,

Thank you for bringing your students to the 2026 SUN 'n FUN Expo! In addition to sun and fun, we can ensure this is a valuable educational experience! Follow this list to see where to go, what to do, and which benchmarks are achieved according to the Florida State Standards. The coordinates in bold refer to the Aerospace Expo map.

Arrival (3  for buses;  for cars) Map B-4 and B-5

Welcome! The first thing you'll notice is SUN 'n FUN is big! You'll be walking outdoors, and if the weather is typical for April, it will be hot.

- Apply sunscreen
- Carry water
- Check the map for Visitor Courtesies offering water, sunscreen, and first aid services.

Aerospace Center for Excellence (5  Map B -4)

Start in the Skylab Innovation Center for hands-on science, technology, and history activities.

- **Science on a Sphere**
Learn about the importance of avionics to pilots.
- **Engineering Lab**
Build a pitot tube in this DATC-sponsored avionics tech workshop and conduct a wind experiment.
Learn about aerospace design, air pressure, and how to calculate air speed.

**The Skylab Innovation Center will close at 12 pm on Thursday.*

- **Florida Air Museum**

The Wright Flyer, NOAA, and NASA exhibits showcase the history of aviation and Tampa Bay's pioneering commercial passenger air travel. Scavenger hunt worksheets are available at the entrance to help you pinpoint areas of importance. Friday visitors will be able to preview the International Drone Soccer League Tournament hosted by Crew Concepts.

**The Florida Air Museum will close at 3 pm on Wednesday until it reopens Friday.*

- **Buehler Hangar (2 Map B-4)**

Flight Tech Sim Center. Explore the technology the aerospace industry uses to train its professionals.

Future 'n Flight Plaza (C-4)

- **Career and College Fair**

Expose high school students to a future in the aerospace industry.

- **Innovation Showcase **

Discover what technology is developing and what it means for the aerospace industry.

- **Flight Path Education Center **

Middle and High school students will enjoy exploring the different kinds of jobs which involve aviation.

- **Junior Aces Tent **

This large, air-conditioned tent offers many hands-on activities put on by agencies who use aviation in the scope of their mission. Don't miss:

1. **The Polk County Astronomy Club**

Get a close-up view of the sun with the solar telescope. Learn about the phases of the moon and the other planets which orbit the sun.

2. **Crew Concepts: Drone Soccer**

Discover the fascinating world of unmanned flight. From delivering Amazon orders, fighting wars, and playing soccer, drones are quickly finding a place in our everyday life.

3. **Polk County Mosquito Control**

Mosquitos are terrible pests for Florida that carry disease and make being outdoors itchy. View the life cycle of the mosquito and learn how this agency keeps us healthy.

4. **Helo Girls**

Meet the authors of adventures in aviation careers. They will also have paper crafts and simple flying toys.

5. Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Try out simulators, robotics, and drones.

6. The Museum of Science and Industry

MOSI in Tampa brings engaging STEM activities.

7. Miso and Killis Treasure

Literary tales of a copilot and navigator.

8. Pushing Tin

Learn about the crucial role of Air Traffic Control at busy airports.

9. Radio Transmitters

Solder wires to a circuit board and build your own communications device.

10. SETP (Society of Experimental Test Pilots)

Explore the forces of flight and aerospace design.

- **Warbird Ramp (D-2, E-3)**

Near the flightline, the Warbird Ramp is one of the coolest spectacles of SUN 'n FUN. These aircraft have a history of military use, whether flying cargo or dropping bombs.

Victory's Arsenal Theater is daily at 10 am and 11:30 am. Pilots or owners of select Warbirds will discuss the wartime service of the aircraft.

- **Bushwheel Basecamp** **([STOL Headquarters](#)) (E-4)**

These are highly specialized aircraft and give you an idea of the scope of aerospace design. Find out how the design allows for shorter runways and abrupt landings.

Visit with the pilots on Friday 10:30-12:00 collect stickers and coloring books, and receive a free discovery flight if a parent/guardian is present to sign a waiver.

- **Hangar A, Compass Rose (B-2)**

Locate this beautiful piece of art painted on the ground and point east for sunrise and west for sunset.

- **The Hangar** ([click here for daily schedule](#))

Located over the creek past the rear of the Florida Air Museum, The Hangar will host a variety of lectures and activities. Of particular note is the Thunderbirds Pilot Team, which will enthrall students on Friday at 11:30. Representatives from NASA are also scheduled to speak during the week.

- **Daily Air Show**

Make your way to the flight line to enjoy the spectacle of the [daily air show](#) starting at 1:00 pm everyday but Wednesday, when it starts at 5:00 pm. Click the link to see the lineup.

Supplementary Guide Florida Standards

Location	Activity	Grade Level	Standards
Arrival	Physical Activity and self-care	5 -12	PE.5.L.4.7, PE.6.C.2.21, PE.912.C.2.9
Skylab	Avionics Tech	1 - 4 6 9-12	SS.1.G.1.2, SC.4.E.5 SC.6.E.7.3, MA.912.C.5.1, SC.912.P.12.2
Florida Air Museum	Exhibits	K-12	SC.K(-12).TL.1, ELA.1(-12).R.2, SS.4.G.1.3, SS.4.E.1.2, SC.6.P.13.2, SC.912.E.5.7
	NOAA, NASA Hall of Fame Florida Industries		SS.912.A.7.18 TH.68.2.2
Buehler Hangar	Flight Simulators	K-12	SC.K12.P.13.1
Future 'n Flight	Pathways to Education	K-12	SC.K12.TL.1.1-10
Junior Aces Tent	Polk County Astronomical Club	K-12	SC.K.E.5.3, SC.1.E.5.4, SC.2.E.7.2, SC.3.E.5.2 - .3, SC.4.E.5.2-4, SC.6.E.7.9, SC.7.P.10.1, SC.8.E.5.3, SC.912.E.5.4
	Polk County Mosquito Control	2-4	SC.2.L.16.1, SC.4.L.16.4,
	Helo Girls	K-3	SC.K12.TL.1.2
	Pushing Tin	K-12	SC.4.CC.1.2, ELA.K12.EE.4.1
	Radio Transmitters	9-12	SC.912.CO.2.8, SC.912.CC.1.2
	Embry-Riddle	9-12	SC.912.ET.3.1, SC.912.ET.3.2
	MOSI	K-12	SC.K12.CTR.1.1
	Crew Concept	7-12	PE.7.C.2.1-3
	SETP	K-12	SC.912.TL.1.10
Warbird Ramp	Victory Theater Aircraft	K-12	SS.1.A.2.1, SS.1.A.2.2, SS.4.A.7.3
Bushwheel Base Camp	STOL aircraft	K-12	SC.4.N.1.8, SC.6.N.1.5
Compass Rose	Map	K-12	SS.1.G.1.2, SS.3.G.1.2

The Hangar	Listening Comprehension	K-12	SP.PK12>SA.10.1, SP.PK12.US.4.4
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