Making the Most of Any Field Trip

• **Identify your learning objectives and discuss them with your students.** The more your students understand the expectations and purpose of the event, the more they can strive to meet those goals.

• **Prepare your students with background information about the trip.** This could include the history of the site, vocabulary, and any potential pre-visit information the museum can provide.

• **Review museum manners.** Help students understand why certain guidelines exist and what you expect from them.

• **Review a packing list with your students.** Be sure your students wear comfy shoes, dress for the weather and pack a lunch as needed. You can always confirm with the museum what materials, if any, students should bring and if there are any areas of the museum with restrictions on backpacks, food and drink, etc.

• **Have your students wear name tags.** Museum guides have a short time to spend with you students and name tags are a big help in making that first connection.

• **Prepare your chaperones.** Keeping your chaperones aware of your itinerary for the day, meeting places, and lunch plans helps everyone stay calm and collected.

• **Divide students into groups before your visit.** This not only helps chaperones know who they are responsible for, but ensures that you will start your program on time.