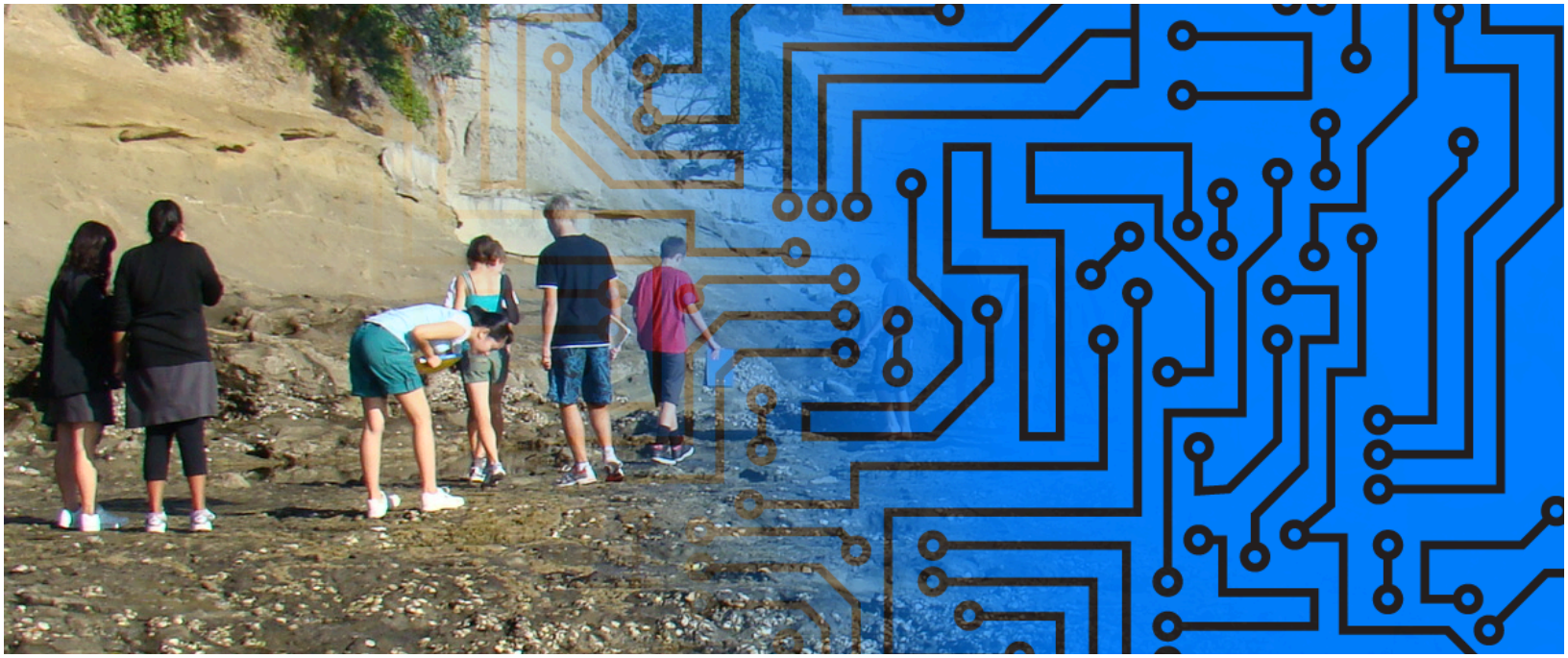
# Alabama Digital Learning

# Virtual Field Trips, September 2025



The Alabama State Department of Education (SDE) invites you to participate in our popular monthly Virtual Field Trips. Alabama has been a trailblazer using technology for the purpose of advancing education. Alabama Connecting Classrooms, Educators, and Students Statewide (ACCESS), Alabama Learning Exchange (ALEX), Alabama Technology in Motion (ATiM), and e-Learning for Educators are all strong tools used for the advancement of digital learning, in addition to the expansive ways technology is used in the classroom.

*We will continue to use ZOOM as our delivery format. To use ZOOM: Create a free account and download the ZOOM app to your computer; or go to zoom.us and click on "Join a Meeting". Check with your technology coordinator to see what options you might have to display the conference on a TV or big screen. You may need a stand-alone mic if your computer does not have one. If you'd like to do any testing or have questions you may contact Alabama Super Computer Help Desk at 1-800-338-8320.*

Below is a listing of events we have to date. This document may be found at https://alvft.link/Sep25 or all of the schedules from February 2021 forward may be found at http://alvft.link/home. You may sign up for the current month's Virtual Field Trips at https://alvft.link/signupSep25

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| Date | Time | Session Name |
|---|---|---|
| 9/02/2025 | 9:00-10:00 AM | A Journey Into the Life of Helen Keller |
| 9/02/2025 | 10:15-11:15 AM | Great American Women |
| 9/04/2025 | 9:00-10:00 AM | A Journey Into the Life of Helen Keller |
| 9/04/2025 | 10:15-11:15 AM | Amazing African Americans from Alabama |
| 9/09/2025 | 9:00-10:00 AM | First Peoples |
| 9/09/2025 | 10:15-11:15 AM | First Peoples |
| 9/10/2025 | 9:00-10:00 AM | Sharks and Rays of the Gulf |
| 9/10/2025 | 10:15-11:15 AM | Sharks and Rays of the Gulf |
| 9/11/2025 | 9:00-10:00 AM | African Americans from Alabama, 2nd Edition |
| 9/11/2025 | 10:15-11:15 AM | Great American Women |
| 9/16/2025 | 9:00-10:00 AM | First Peoples |
| 9/16/2025 | 10:15-11:15 AM | First Peoples |
| 9/17/2025 | 9:00-10:00 AM | Movement and Motion |
| 9/17/2025 | 10:15-11:15 AM | Careers in the NFL |
| 9/24/2025 | 9:00-10:00 AM | Movement and Motion |
| 9/24/2025 | 10:15-11:15 AM | Media and the NFL |

***Please leave your classroom cameras on if possible. Presenters very much appreciate seeing your students.***

**A Journey Into the Life of Helen Keller**
**Keller Johnson-Thompson, Vice President of the Helen Keller Foundation**
September 2, 9:00-10:00 AM
September 4, 9:00-10:00 AM
Grades K-5

Keller Johnson Thompson, great grand niece of Helen Keller and Vice President of the Helen Keller Foundation for Research and Education, takes students on a marvelous journey into the amazing life of Helen Keller, America's First Lady of Courage. From her early days in Tuscumbia, Alabama to her travels around the world, Helen Keller not only lived a wonderful and full life despite being deaf and blind, but she also inspired others to make a positive difference in the world around them. Through this journey, it is hoped that students not only learn many new things about Helen Keller, but more importantly, it is hoped that students will see and understand the need to have good values and character, as Helen Keller did.

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**Amazing African Americans from Alabama**
**Keller Johnson-Thompson, Vice President of the Helen Keller Foundation**
September 4, 10:15-11:15 AM
Grades 2-5

There have been many African Americans from Alabama that have defined history as well as those people that have been successful in their respective fields. On this field trip, we will look at the lives of those African Americans from Alabama that have inspired us to become better people.

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**Amazing African Americans from Alabama, 2nd Edition**
**Keller Johnson-Thompson, Vice President of the Helen Keller Foundation**
September 11, 9:00-10:00 AM
Grades 2-5

Alabama has many wonderful African Americans from our state that have influenced history. In this 2nd Edition of African Americans from Alabama that you should know, we will take an in depth look at more of these exciting and passionate people that helped shape the history of our state in sports, the Civil Rights Movement, Politics and much more. Come along and explore African Americans that you should know!!!

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**Careers in the NFL**
**Jerry Csaki, Senior Director of Youth and Education, Pro Football Hall of Fame**
September 17, 10:15-11:15 AM
Grades 5-12

This program examines the importance of education and the hundreds of careers available in and around the National Football League. A 10-minute career video, which examines a wide variety of careers with the San Francisco 49ers organization, is shown during this session. The 50-minute program, which is designed to be highly interactive, is supplemented by a lesson aligned with Common Core/National Standards of Education and is recommended for Grades 5-12.
Classroom Activity: https://alvft.link/nflcareers

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**Great American Women**
**Keller Johnson-Thompson, Vice President of the Helen Keller Foundation**
September 2, 10:15-11:15 AM
September 11, 10:15-11:15 AM
Grades 1-8

Join us in this journey as we explore the life and accomplishments of several American women and how they changed the world we live in today.

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**First Peoples**
**Jake Smith, Education Curator, Alabama Department of Archives & History**
September 9, 9:00-10:00 AM
September 9, 10:15-11:15 AM
September 16, 9:00-10:00 AM
September 16, 10:15-11:15 AM
Grades 3-6

Beginning in the Paleo Era and culminating with the disintegration of Mississippian culture, this presentation will teach students about the daily life of the First Peoples of what we now call the Southeastern United States. This program will also include an introduction to different ways of learning about history, including archaeology and oral history.

**Standard**

SS24.3.8a Identify changes that took place in prehistoric/pre-contact cultures in the Southeast between the Paleo, Archaic, Woodland, and Mississippian periods.

Dauphin Island Sea Lab
DISCOVERY HALL PROGRAMS

**Sharks and Rays of the Gulf**
**Greg Graeber, Discovery Hall Programs Educator**
September 10, 9:00-10:00 AM
September 10, 10:15-11:15 AM

*Cassie Hanback will be handling the connection and camera duties. If you have trouble during the presentation and need to reach her, her email is chanback@disl.org and her direct phone line is 251-861-2141, 7515.*

*The 9 am presentation will be geared towards younger students (K-5) while the 10:15 am presentation will be more suitable for students in middle and high school.*

*Are there great white sharks in the Gulf of Mexico? What's the difference between a sharks and rays? What adaptations do they have that make them so successful? Join the crew of the Dauphin Island Sea Lab for an up close and personal introduction to sharks, skates and rays. See the diversity of Alabama's sharks and rays, explore the external and internal anatomy of a shark and learn how our actions can be harmful to shark and ray populations.*

*Suitable audience: The program **Sharks & Rays of the Gulf** is appropriate for all grades. A downloadable poster on the Common Sharks of the Northern Gulf of Mexico can be found on our website here. The program addresses the following disciplinary core ideas: 1) From molecules to organisms: structures and processes; 2) Unity and diversity; and 3) Ecosystems: interactions, energy and dynamics.*

**Media and the NFL**
**Jerry Csaki, Senior Director of Youth and Education, Pro Football Hall of Fame**
September 24, 10:15-11:15 AM
Grades 6-12

This program examines the role of television in the history of the NFL and its impact on viewers. Students will receive an overview of the history of television in the NFL and gain knowledge about the growth of the NFL through television. The topic will also examine the growth of the Super Bowl advertising and TV ratings. This 50-minute program, which is designed to be highly interactive, is supplemented by a lesson aligned with Common Core/National Standards of Education and is recommended for grades 6-12.

Supplemental Materials:

- Classroom activity
- Supplemental Video

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**Movement and Motion**
**Jerry Csaki, Senior Director of Youth and Education, Pro Football Hall of Fame**
September 17, 9:00-10:00 AM
September 24, 9:00-10:00 AM
Grades 5-12

This program examines the relationship of science and the game of professional football. Straight line movement, zig-zags, circular motion, back & forth, pushing & pulling - all movements that influence the sport. This 50-minute program, which is designed to be highly interactive, is supplemented by a lesson aligned with Common Core/National Standards of Education and is recommended for Grades 1-5.

Supplemental Materials:

- Classroom Activity
- Supplemental Video

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