

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES 2018

EXPRESSIONS WHIRINAKI ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

Expressions Whirinaki Arts & Entertainment Centre is Upper Hutt's own art hub.

We are committed to offering engaging and accessible visual and performing art experiences for local students and have a range of exciting and world class programmes.

Expressions Whirinaki Arts & Entertainment Centre presents a vibrant and diverse exhibition programme throughout the year including artworks and exhibitions of national significance as well as those representing artists from the wider Wellington Region and our own Upper Hutt community. With an ever changing exhibition programme and most exhibitions suitable for children, schools can visit on a regular basis.

During an educational visit students will learn to look closely and think critically to develop a greater understanding of art, culture and history. Educational visits are ALWAYS FREE. They are tailored to suit the age of the students and usually involve a tour and discussion about the exhibition and an associated hands-on art or craft activity. They are presented by an experienced art facilitator and they can run from an hour to one and a half hours.



PERMIAN MONSTERS: LIFE BEFORE THE DINOSAURS

29 September – 13 December 2018

What creature ruled the world before the Dinosaurs? Step back in time when bizarre-looking animals dominated life, and find out in Permian Monsters: Life Before the Dinosaurs at Expressions Whirinaki in Upper Hutt. This international travelling exhibition brings the past back to life with fossilised skeletons and full-size, moving animatronic models of the animals that ruled the world... years before the age of dinosaurs, in a time known as the Permian.



The exhibition blends art and science with a collection of new artwork which offers a glimpse back in time through the eyes of award winning paleo-artist Julius Csotonyi. View fossilised skeletons and reconstructed models of these amazing but bizarre creatures that dominated land and sea; and dig and identify fossils in the interactive dig pits throughout the exhibition. See giant insects, bizarre looking sharks and strange reptiles with mammal-like characteristics. Meet the top predator of the time, the giant sabertoothed gorgonopsid *Inostrancevia* and find out what nearly killed them all to make way for Earth's next rulers, the dinosaurs.

The Permian period ended with the largest extinction Earth ever experienced, which wiped out 90% of all species on the planet. The cause of the Permian



extinction had baffled scientists for the past 20 years but a recent discovery has shed new light on the cause of this catastrophe: global warming. Find out how this familiar phenomenon, started by a huge volcanic eruption, set off a chain of events that led to the greatest extinction on Earth.

Please note due to the life-size animatronics and noise of the exhibition, some under 5's may find it just a wee bit scary.

Educational links: science

This exhibit has strong links to the science curriculum. Students will learn about the nature of science, particularly the living world, understanding the processes of life and coming to an appreciation of the diversity of living things. The exhibit enables the students to come to an understanding of the interaction between the living and non-living environment, understand the processes that drive change over a period of time, and be able to discuss the implications of these changes.

Educational links: the arts

This exhibit also has strong links to the visual arts curriculum, around the learning strands of developing ideas in the Visual arts. Students will explore and describe how different media influence the communication and interpretation of ideas in their own, and in others work. They will use critical analysis to inform, interpret, and respond to the electronic medium used in the exhibit.

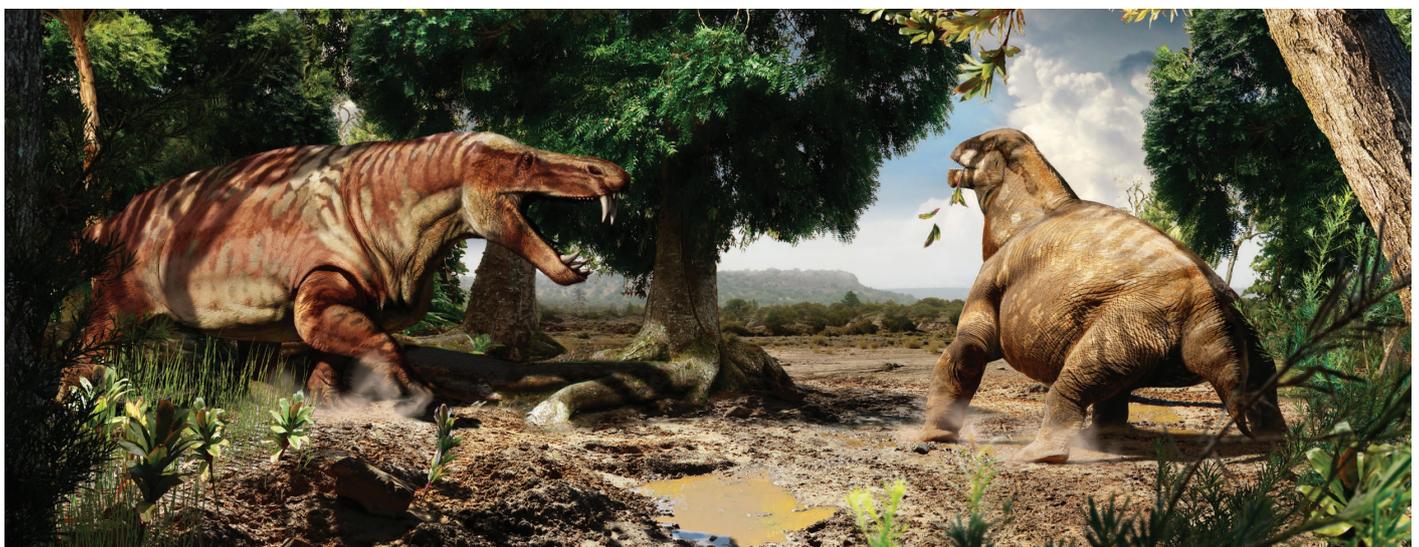
Educational Visits

Exhibition tour - free

Exhibition tours & Creative activity – free (90-120 minutes)

Permian Monsters Activity: Story telling using Clay

Students will get the opportunity to draw their own artistic conclusions from the scientific facts presented in the exhibit. They will draw on evidence that they view, to create their own interpretation of a Permian monster, paying attention to skin, eye, and colour of the creature. The students will attempt to draw links between the extinct Permian creatures, and animals that are alive today. They will have their own creation to take home, and to inform their post visit activities.





PLANNING A VISIT

FAQs and things you might like to know

Getting here

Public Transport:

With buses and trains stopping at Upper Hutt Station, Expressions is just a five minute walk down the road.

Bringing your own bus or cars:

Car parking and bus drop off points are right behind Expressions in the carpark near H2O Xtream swimming pool.

During Your Visit

Lunch & morning tea:

We have an indoor space to enjoy morning and afternoon tea should the weather require that (subject to availability)

School bags & jackets:

Yes you can bring your school bags and jackets as we have a space for them while you visit.

For further information or to book a visit please contact

Claire Mepham, Learning Programmes Specialist
Expressions Whirinaki Arts and Entertainment Centre
Ph (04) 5290086

education@expressions.org.nz

www.expressions.org.nz

Claire is also available throughout the year to visit your school and discuss the exhibition programme and the opportunities for your students.

Please contact her to make a time to visit you.

