

School Visit to La Brea Tar Pits

Social Narrative

GEORGE C. PAGE MUSEUM
LA BREA DISCOVERIES

LA BREA
TAR
PITS
MUSEUM



LA BREA
TAR
PITS
& MUSEUM



I am going on a field trip to La Brea Tar Pits and Museum with my class.
The Museum is a big place with lots of cool things for me to learn about and see.



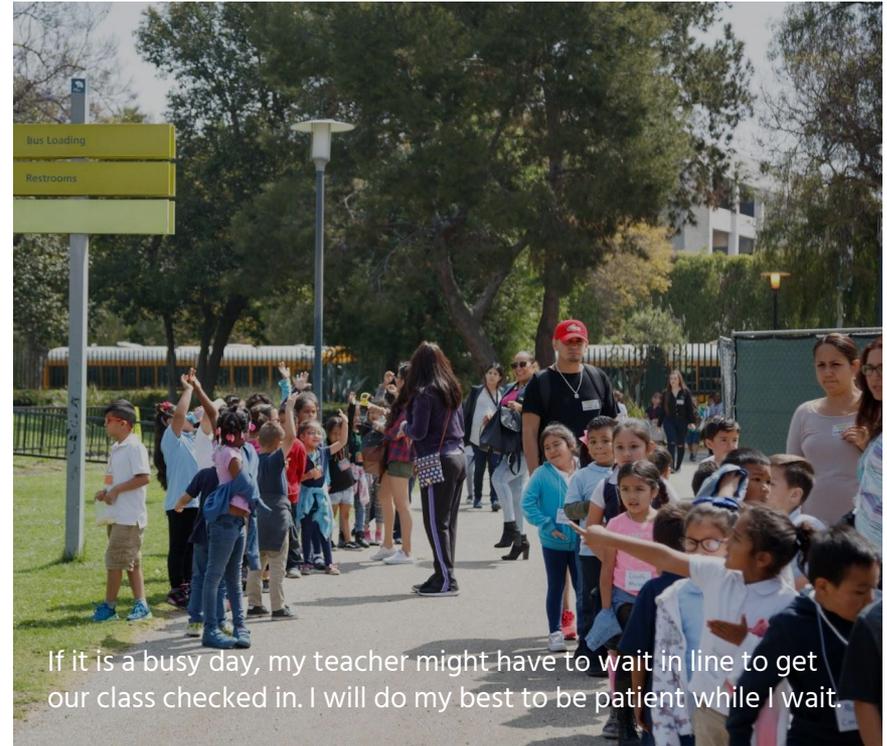
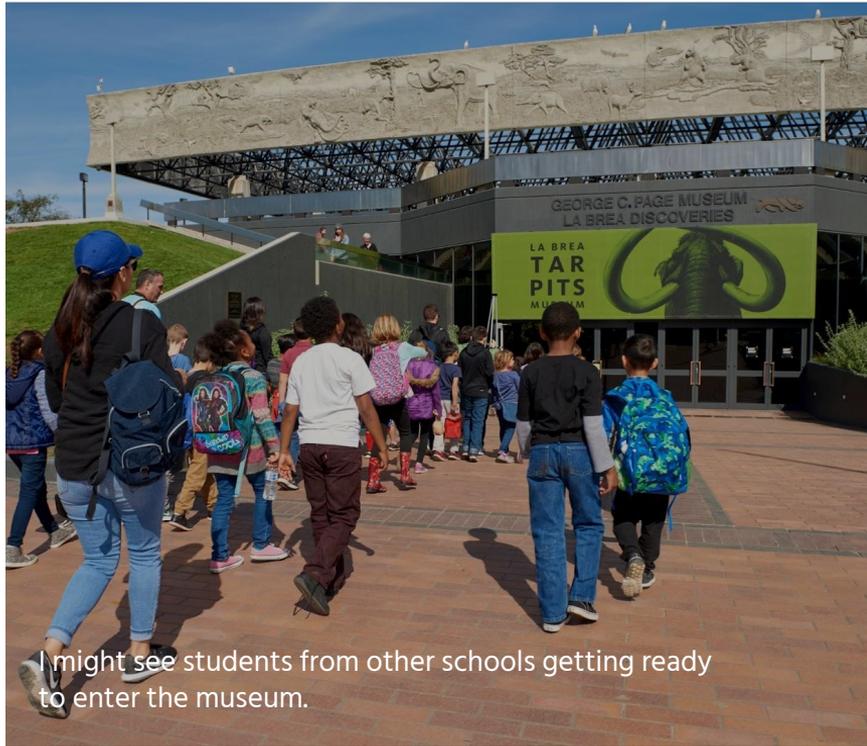
To get to the Museum,

I will ride on a bus with my classmates and chaperones.



I might need to take my lunch or backpack with me when I get off. I will do my best to be responsible for remembering and carrying my own belongings while we are inside the museum.

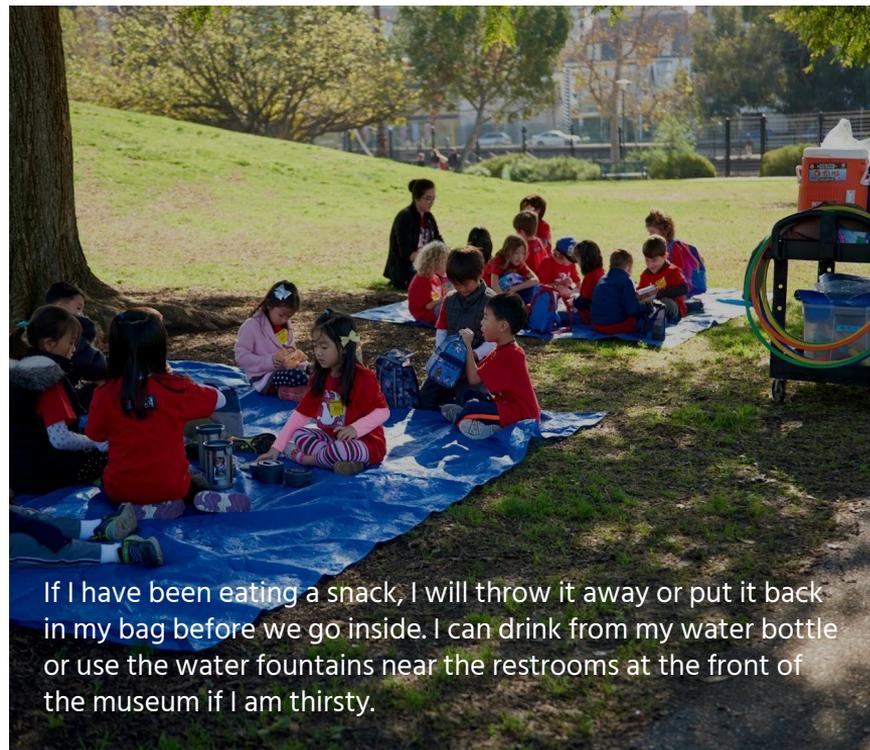
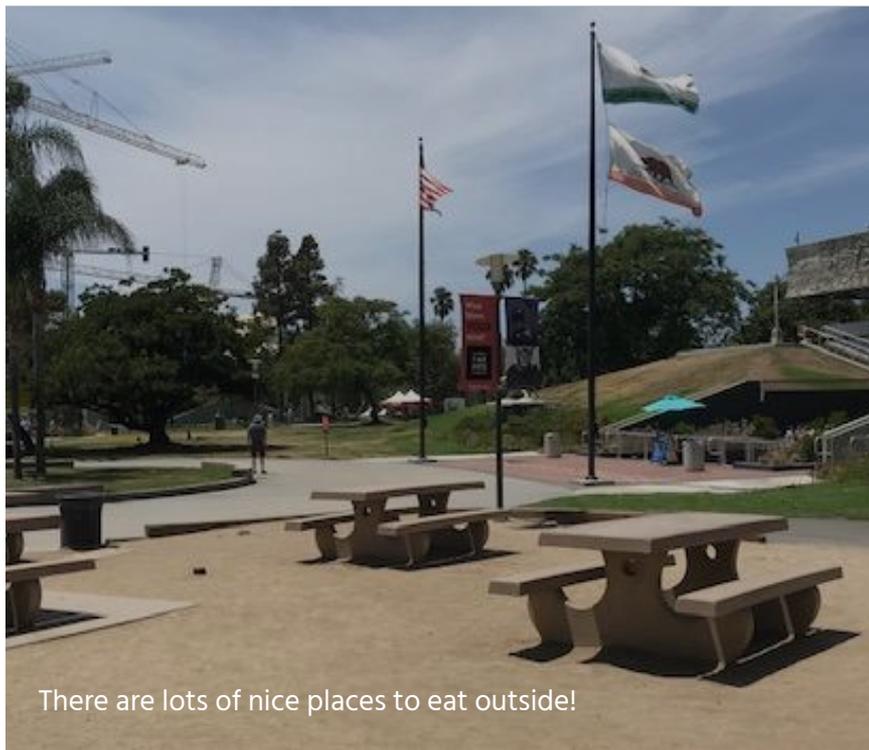
One of my teachers will go into the Museum first while we wait outside.
When I get off the bus, I will see the Museum in the middle of a park with a big hill on all sides.



If I need to use the bathroom, I will tell an adult in my group and they can take me.
There is one bathroom inside the Museum and one outside.
These bathrooms all have several stalls.



**To keep the Museum safe and clean for other guests,
I will keep my food and drinks put away while we are inside.**



If I need to take a break, I will tell an adult.

There is an Atrium in the center of the Museum as well as places outside the Museum in the park space that are quieter and where I can relax.



The adults' stickers are our tickets to the Museum.

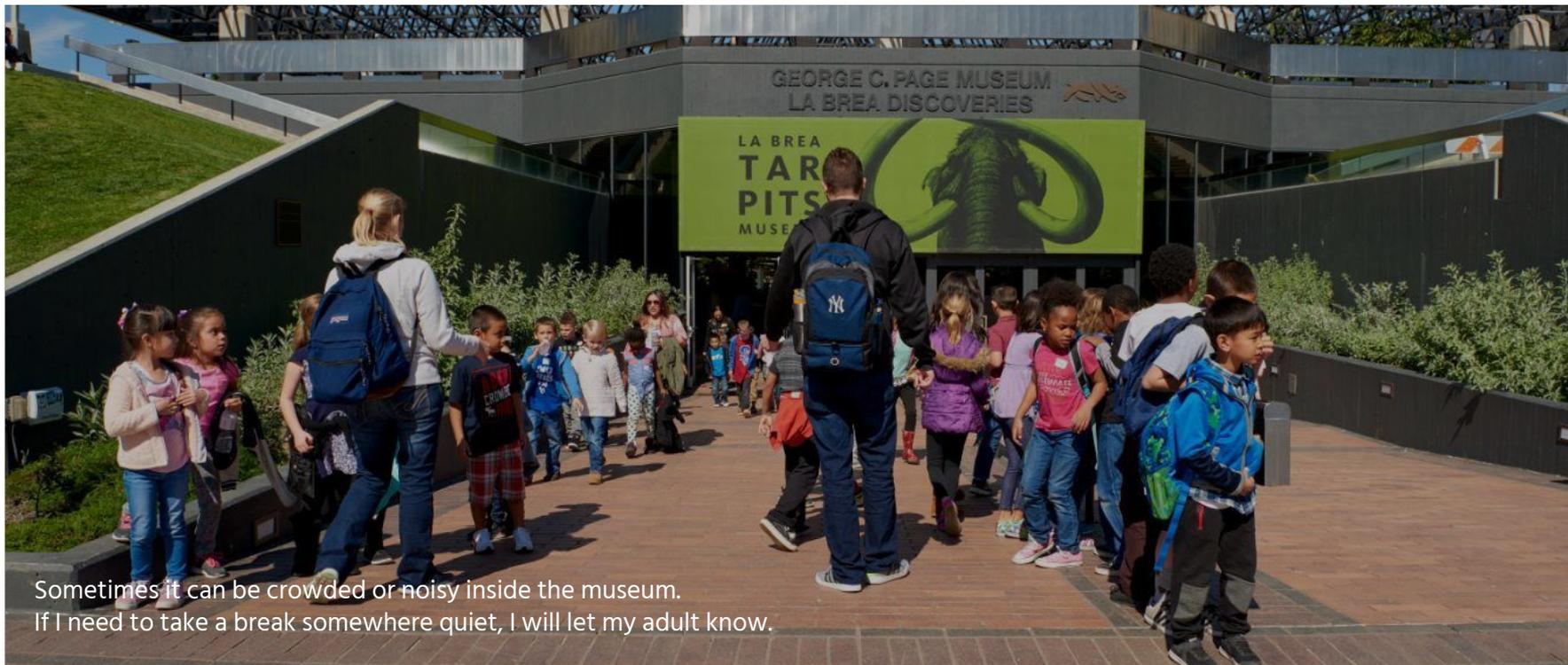
When my teacher comes back outside, they will give a sticker and a map to each adult in the group.



Adults will get maps to help us find our way around the Museum. It's a nice idea to share the map and work as a team to find the fossils we want to see!

I will need to stay near an adult while I am inside.

My teacher will tell me which adults will be with my group while we are on our visit. I will make sure that I can always see them as we explore the museum and the park!



Sometimes it can be crowded or noisy inside the museum.
If I need to take a break somewhere quiet, I will let my adult know.

**If I get separated from my group or adult, or if I have questions,
I can ask someone who works at the museum to help me.
People who work at the museum wear a uniform or name badge.**



When we enter through the doors of the Museum,
I will feel cool air and it will be a little darker than it was outside.



It might take my eyes a second to get used to the difference in light. There is one floor I can visit, with different exhibits all around.

The Museum is over 40 years old and has lots of interesting fossils.
Museums are a good place to learn about the world around you.
In the exhibits at the Tar Pits, I can learn about things like the plants and animals that lived in Los Angeles thousands of years ago (during the last Ice Age)!



All over the Museum I will see old, brown bones.

These are fossil bones from animals that died thousands of years ago and were found right here in Hancock Park!



The fossils are brown because they were buried in asphalt. When the fossils are found under ground, they are in a jumbled mess!

**The Museum works to put the bones together into a skeleton,
almost like putting together puzzle pieces.**

Some of the fossils are standing up so we can see how the animals
would look when they were living here in LA.



I will also see some very large animal sculptures inside the Museum.
These aren't real animals, but can help me understand how big the animals that used to live in Los Angeles were.



Inside the Museum, I will also see many fun videos and games!

These can be loud and crowded, so I might want to wait my turn for a quiet chance to play them.



Inside the Museum, I will see a round, glass room filled with people in white coats using tools on the fossils.

These are Museum employees and volunteers that help to clean off the asphalt or repair the fossil bones before the Museum displays the fossils.



There are many things at the Museum that I will be able to look at, but not touch. These things may be fragile or very old, so touching them wouldn't be safe! Objects that I shouldn't touch will be behind glass or another barrier.



There are also many things that are okay to touch!

A sign or Museum staff member will let me know if an object is touchable.

If I am ever unsure, I can ask an adult in my group.



The Museum also has many neat spaces to explore outside in Hancock Park.

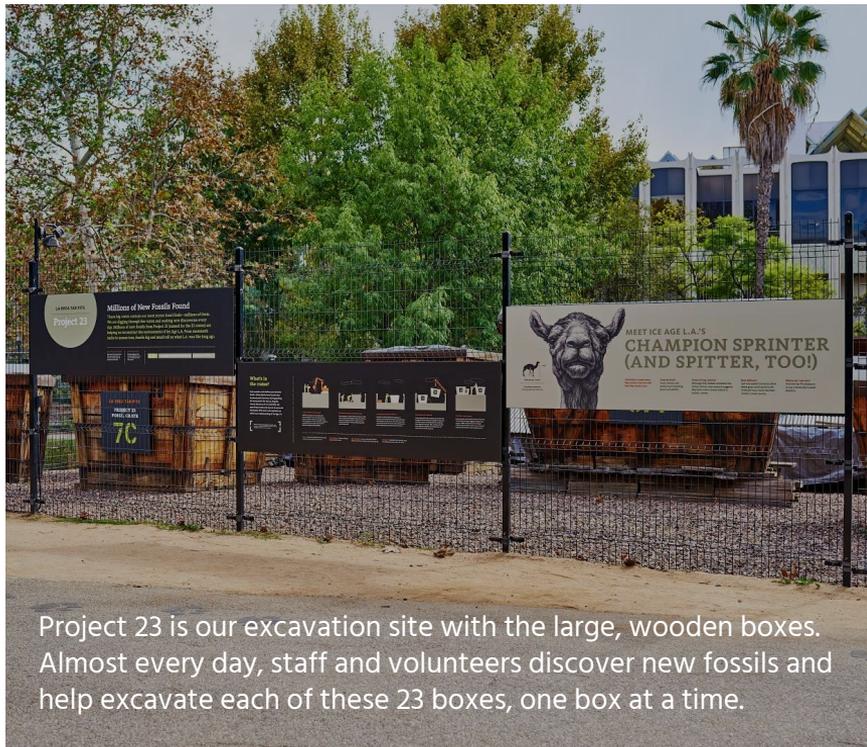


I can look in the grass for bright green cones or small fences that surround a large blob of black goo. The goo inside is asphalt or tar, which can stick to my body and clothes and be very difficult to remove.

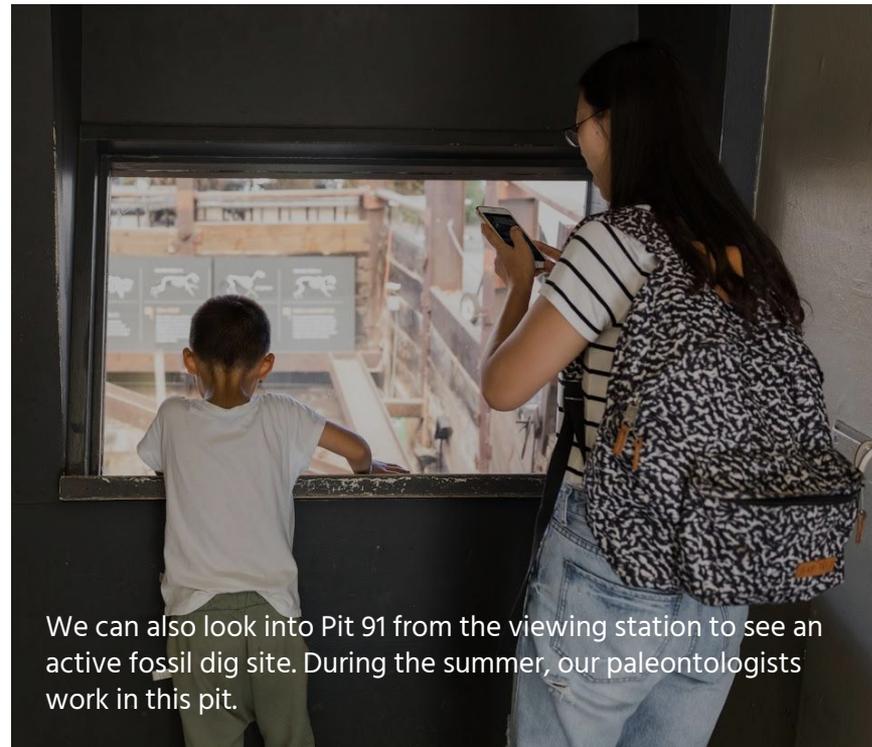


I can look at it, and maybe a teacher can help me find a stick to poke it with, but it is super sticky and will be hard to get off my hands if I touch it.

Outside in the park, I can also visit the excavation sites where the Museum digs up the fossil bones!

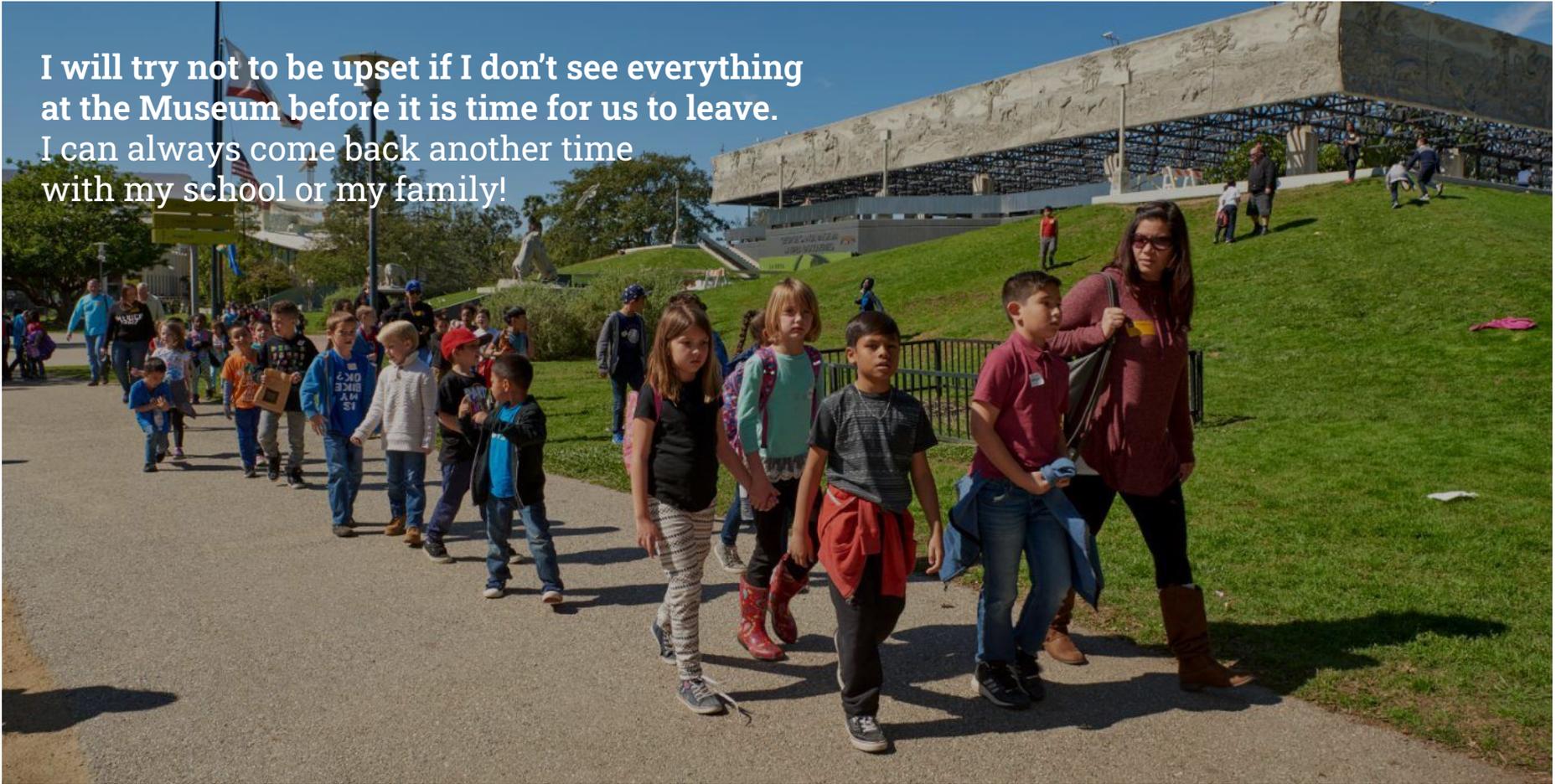


Project 23 is our excavation site with the large, wooden boxes. Almost every day, staff and volunteers discover new fossils and help excavate each of these 23 boxes, one box at a time.



We can also look into Pit 91 from the viewing station to see an active fossil dig site. During the summer, our paleontologists work in this pit.

I will try not to be upset if I don't see everything
at the Museum before it is time for us to leave.
I can always come back another time
with my school or my family!



The background is a dense, repeating pattern of various prehistoric animals and plants in shades of orange and brown. The animals include dinosaurs, mammoths, birds, and insects. The plants include ferns, dandelions, and other foliage. The overall style is reminiscent of a vintage wallpaper or a textile print.

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