WELCOME TO THE KALAMAZOO VALLEY MUSEUM — First Floor

FRONT DESK
“I will be greeted by a staff member at the front desk.”
Admission to the Museum is free. Tickets for the planetarium can be purchased here for $3/person.

LOBBY
“I can sit on benches in the lobby to decide where I want to go first.”
This area can be loud with large groups. Food and drink are allowed on the first floor only.

LOCKERS
“I can put my coat and bag in a locker.”
Returnable $.50 key lockers are available.

TIME PIECES
“I can see a wall full of artifacts on all three floors.”
Computers are located on the stair balcony and the third floor hallway to teach you about each item.

BATHROOMS
“I can find the bathroom behind the wall of artifacts.”
Bathrooms are available on the first floor and in the Innovation Gallery on the second floor.

SPECIAL EXHIBITION
This exhibit changes every four months. Check our Special Exhibition Social Story to see what exhibits are currently here.
KALAMAZOO VALLEY MUSEUM — First Floor

ELEVATOR
“I can ride the elevator to the second and third floor.”
Families with strollers use our elevator. We recommend school groups use the stairs.

SEASONS OF SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN
“I can see and play with weather exhibits.”
These hands-on exhibits offer lots of sensory experiences. The tornado motor can be a bit loud.

MARY JANE STRYKER THEATER
“I can enjoy concerts, storytelling performances, and more in the theater.”
Headphones, wiggle cushions, fidgets, and resistance bands are available for use.

WORLDWORKS
“I can use this room as a quiet space for hands-on days.”
During craft days, collect the projects you would like to work on and take them here to complete.

PLANETARIUM
“I can see stars, watch sky pictures, and listen to music in the planetarium.”
Headphones, wiggle cushions, fidgets, and resistance bands are available for use.

STAIRS
“I can use the stairs to get from floor to floor.”
Make sure to walk and use the hand railing.
KALAMAZOO DIRECT TO YOU — Second Floor

KALAMAZOO DIRECT TO YOU

“I can see a Checker Cab and other things made in Kalamazoo.”

Listen to songs and see artifacts made here in Kalamazoo.

TOWER

“I can look out on downtown Kalamazoo now and see pictures of what it used to look like.”

This is often a very quiet space.

KALAMAZOO SOUND STAGE: GUITARS

“I can play a guitar, banjo, and mandolin.”

Listen to the different sounds of each instrument by plugging them into an amp.

DOUGLASS COMMUNITY CENTER

“I can play in a diner preparing sandwiches and ice cream.”

This is a very tactile environment with soft sculpture foods. Practice ordering and serving.

GENERAL STORE

“I can pretend to shop in the General Store.”

Explore textures, smell scent boxes, and practice life skills. Shopping lists are available to follow.

BRONSON PARK

“I can pose with sculptures.”

Local history is displayed in this downtown park setting. This is a great place to rest even when the weather is cold outside.
INNOVATION GALLERY — Second Floor

INNOVATION GALLERY

“I can see innovations in the field of music, mobility, the human body, and land.”
Inventors are constantly finding new ways to make life easier and better.

MUSIC

“I can record my voice and see sound vibration.”
Music has a strong history here in Kalamazoo.

MAKING MUSIC: PERCUSSION

“I can use computers to make drums beat to different rhythms.”
This area can be loud when all the drums are going at once.

WINDMILL

“I can make the windmill spin slow or fast.”
Choose from different shaped panels and adjust the angles to determine the speed of the windmill.

WATERSHEDS: TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP

“I can play with sand and make mountains, valleys, and rain.”
A computer identifies the levels of sand and adds topographical weather patterns.

BODY

“I can see how technology helps with vision and movement.”
Glasses, artificial limbs, and robotic surgery show advances in medical innovations.
INNOVATION GALLERY — Second Floor

BEYOND SKIN DEEP: X-RAY WALL
“I can see my muscles, bones, and veins move with me.”
A motion computer shows different body systems that follow visitor movement.

MOBILITY
“I can learn how people move from one place to another.”
Learn about the history of transportation and explore with currents and wind.

THE NEED FOR SPEED: RACE TRACK
“I can build a Lego car and race a friend.”
Be creative, make changes, and race against wind to learn about resistance.

FLUID DYNAMICS
“I can use magnets to change water currents.”
Change the direction and placement of different shaped disks to direct water currents.

THINKTANK
“I can watch videos about museum exhibits and activities.”
Short videos explore the history, science, and technology behind paper airplanes, water currents, construction techniques, and more.

INNOVATION LAB
“I can experiment with science principles like flight and construction.”
A variety of activities around a chosen topic change daily and are listed on our website.
CHILDREN’S LANDSCAPE — Second Floor
Early Childhood Exploration — For children age 5 and under

CHILDREN’S LANDSCAPE
“I can learn and play with an adult in this preschool space.”
This is a safe play area for our youngest visitors, five and under. Themes change every two months.

VELCRO ROOM
“I can explore different fabric textures on this giant Velcro wall.”
This is a quiet space for cool down. Circle times take place in this room.

JUKEBOX
“I can play all kinds of music on the jukebox.”
A variety of music genres match the exhibit theme. The volume is low and encourages dance and movement.

BOOKS AND PUPPETS
“I can hear a story and play with puppets.”
Families will enjoy a quiet reading time with books that relate to the theme and activities.

PUZZLES
“I can put a puzzle together.”
Each theme will have a variety of puzzles, from toddler block puzzles to floor puzzles.

ACTIVITIES
“I can play with toys.”
Activities will change with the theme and include toys that encourage math, science, and literacy.
MYSTERY OF THE MUMMY — Third Floor

MYSTERY OF THE MUMMY

“I can see a real mummy.”
Learn how science, history, and culture all fit together by exploring our mummy and what we know about her.

MUMMY

“I can see her unwrapped head and tightly wrapped body.”
Featured in books, a Reading Rainbow video, and followed on her twitter account — our mummy has her own fan club.

Egyptian Relief Reproductions

“I can touch reproductions of Egyptian art.”
See encased artifacts and touch reproductions to get a feel for life in ancient Egypt.

X-RAYS AND ART

“I can see x-rays of the mummy.”
A CT scan allowed artists to recreate her face and learn about her.

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