

Teacher's Guide

The Montgomery County Environmental Learning Center (ELC) has created this Teaching Guide to facilitate the use of our virtual tour in the classroom--kind of like a virtual field trip! The material presented in the tour, and in these teaching resources targets K-8 groups, and contains content relevant to science, reading, writing, and math curricula.

The ELC Virtual Tour can be used inside the classroom as a "virtual field trip," where the class can walk through the facility and participate in the activities as a group OR the activities and videos can be used as individual assignments, in class or at home.

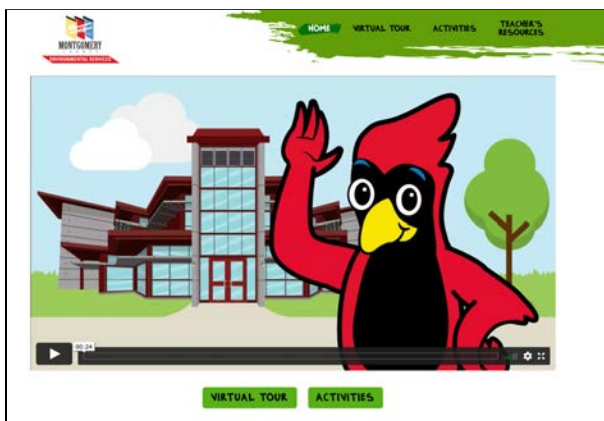
The resources below have been developed with input from Montgomery County educators, and can be downloaded and used in conjunction with the tour and activities on the website.

General:

- The ELC Virtual Tour will work across most computers, browsers, and devices, including mobile devices and touch screen tablets.

The Tour:

The ELC Virtual Tour is a 3D rendering of the ELC facility, with information, activities, and videos embedded into the experience that correspond to the educational components of an in-person tour.



If you are using the ELC Virtual Tour website in the classroom as a virtual "field trip," either by showing the tour on a large screen, or walking students through it on their individual devices, the tour instructions are as follows:

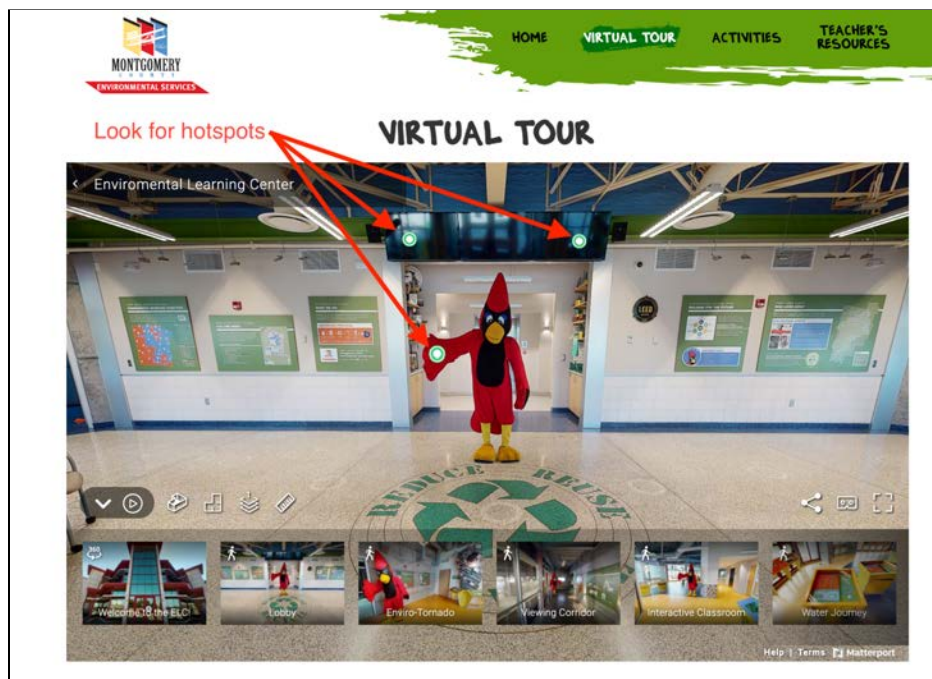
1. Watch the introductory welcome video with Curby the Cardinal to introduce the ELC and the tour.

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2. From the "splash page" or home screen, select the "virtual tour" option from the menu bar at the top of the screen.



3. Click the "play" button to "explore the 3D space."
4. Click on the green "hotspot" on Curby the Cardinal's wing for a welcome message, and instructions on how to navigate the tour.

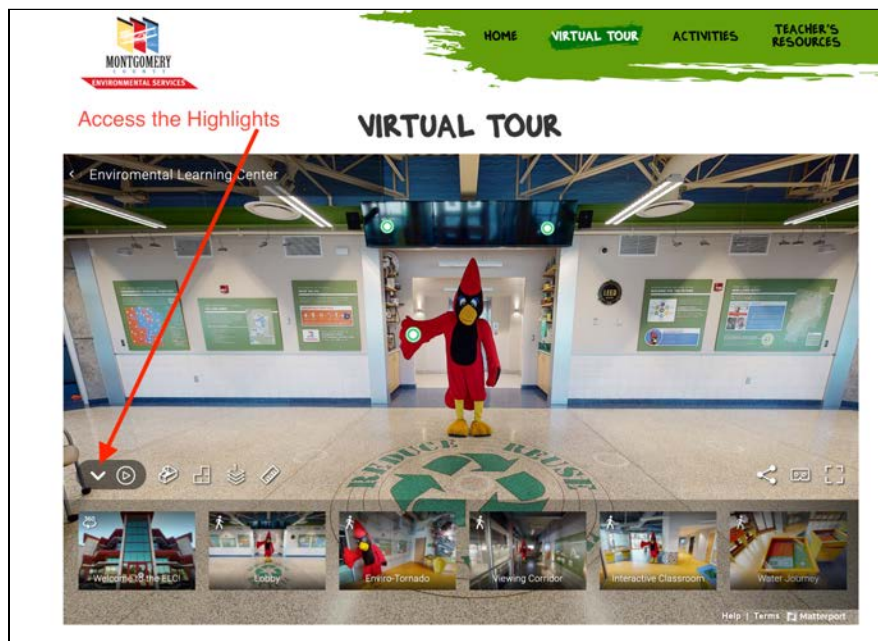


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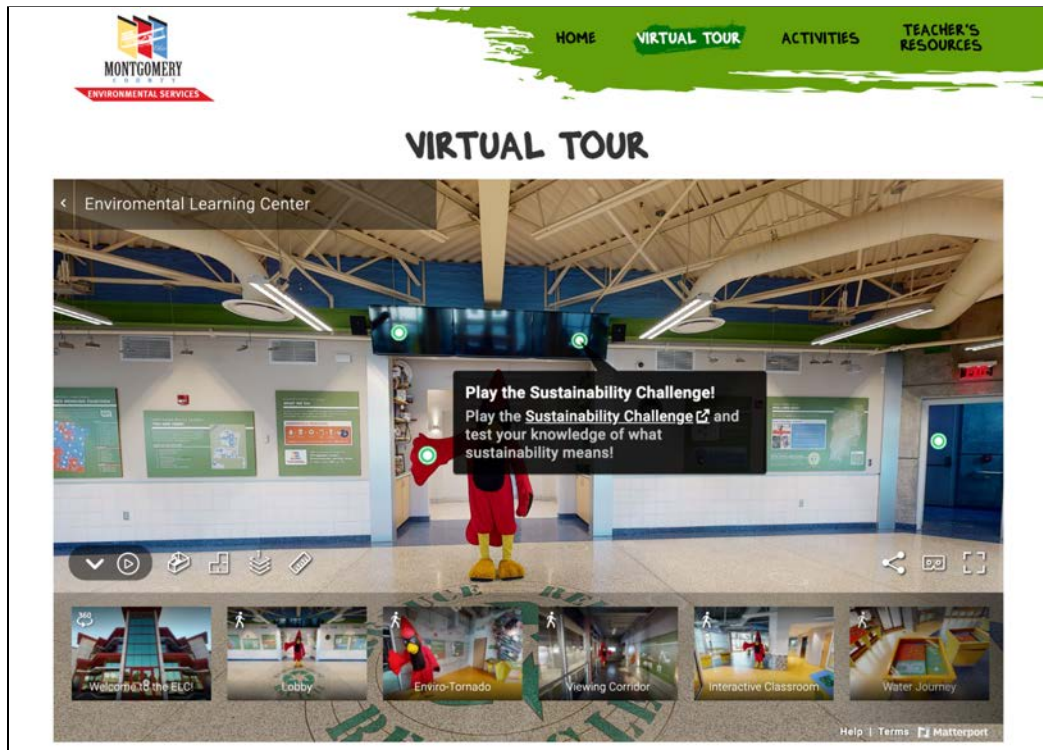
5. To move through the ELC Virtual Tour there are two options for navigation:
 - a. Manual: Click on the location and direction you'd like to explore to move through the space. The white circles on the floor indicate where you may go.



- b. Use the "highlight reel" at the bottom of the screen to follow the step-by-step guided tour. Each "highlight" features a different stop on the tour.
6. Messages from Curby, fun activities, videos, and more can be accessed throughout the tour by clicking on the green "hotspots" throughout the space.



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Activities:

Activities and videos can be accessed separately from the tour by clicking the "Activities" option from the menu bar at the top of the screen. On the activities page, the games and videos that are present throughout the tour are accessible directly.



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Accessibility:

- Videos and activities can be muted by pressing the mute button at the top left corner of the activity or video window.
- Captioning can be accessed for the video content by clicking the "CC" (closed captioning) button on the control bar at the bottom of the video.