Introducing the
Advanced Learning Initiative
funded by donations in
Memory of Albert Hogoboom
and the Hogoboom Family

User’s Guide to Albert
Introducing Albert

Let us introduce you to the newest member of our team: Albert, the Advanced Learning robot! By scheduling a virtual tour with us, you can join Albert through the internet and experience the Kansas Oil Museum from the comfort of your own classroom or meeting room. This quick start guide should help you with everything you need to know to schedule a visit with Albert and get touring!

How Do I Use Albert?

It's really easy! Two simple steps are all you need to experience the Kansas Oil Museum through Albert's eyes.

Step 1 - Scheduling a Tour: Call the museum (316-321-9333) to reserve a date and time for your classroom's "visit". Once your session is reserved, you will receive an e-mail with the details of your visit, and a link to connect to Albert.

Step 2 - On the Day of Your Tour: When you are ready to start your tour, go to the e-mail you received and click on the link near the bottom. It will connect you to Albert, and you will be looking right through Albert's camera! From here you will be able to see and hear your tour guide, ask questions, drive Albert around the museum, and even take pictures for your classroom to use after the visit.

It's as simple as that!

What Do I Need to Connect With Albert?

Nothing more than a typical classroom is already equipped with. You will need:

An e-mail address -- To receive your link to Albert.

A PC, laptop, or iPad with audio and video functionality -- To see and hear through Albert, and to be seen and heard by your tour guide.

An internet connection -- To connect long-distance with Albert.

A web browser -- Either Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome; Internet Explorer and other browsers are NOT supported at this time.

A Smartboard or projector and screen -- To allow your whole classroom or group to see the tour.
Navigating the Museum with Albert

Your tour guide will be leading you around the museum, so all you have to do is follow him or her through the galleries. Getting around with Albert is not hard -- it only takes a few minutes to get the hang of "driving" him. He can be moved forward, back, left, and right using the arrow keys on your keyboard.

Most of the time you will be able to move Albert easily just looking through his main camera. For tighter spaces or corners you'll find it helpful to look at Albert's floor view to see exactly where his wheels are going.

If you have any difficulties, your tour guide is there to help!

Seeing and Hearing

While using Albert you will be able to see and hear your tour guide, and your tour guide will be able to see and hear you too! Your tour guide will of course appear before you on Albert's main screen. Your guide can also see you in a window on Albert's own screen, as long as you are in front of your computer's or iPad's camera. Even when out of camera shot, both you and your guide will be able to speak to and hear each other through microphone and speaker.

To allow the full classroom to see and hear the tour, most teachers simply project Albert's view onto the classroom's smart-board or a projection screen. Questions from the students are best relayed
through the teacher, to make it easiest for your tour guide to hear and answer them.

If the ambient noise from the classroom makes it hard for your guide to hear, he or she is able to adjust the volume on Albert's end or even mute it if necessary. Your guide will let you know if they need to do this while talking. After they have finished what they have to say, they will raise the volume and let you know they are ready to take questions and comments from the classroom again.

**Adjusting the View**

Most of the time you will just use the arrow keys to face Albert in different directions during the course of your tour. But you can also raise and lower Albert's camera to get a better look. To do this, look for the Albert silhouettes on the upper left-hand side of your screen -- one short and one tall. To raise Albert's camera, press the tall button; to lower again, press the short button.

One thing to keep in mind is that Albert will move more slowly when his camera is higher (it's harder for him to keep his balance!), so if you raise it up you will want to lower it again before moving on.

**Taking Pictures**

You can take a picture of Albert's view at any time by pressing the camera button in the upper right-hand corner of your screen. When you take a picture, it will pop up as a separate tab on your internet browser. This means if you close the tab, you lose the picture! To save it for later use, all you have to do is right-click on the picture and select "Save As".

One thing to keep in mind is that any photo taken through Albert will be much higher resolution than your real-time view through the camera. This means that if you want to inspect an object or scene in greater detail, all you have to do is take a picture, save it, and open it up with an image viewer. You will be able to zoom in to see fine details that might have been fuzzy in real-time.
Parking Albert

Sometimes your tour guide may ask you to park Albert. This will usually happen at the end of your session, or when your guide is going to pick Albert up to carry him across a rough path or through a doorway -- even Albert can’t go everywhere on his own! To park Albert, all you have to do is press the P button on the upper left-hand corner of your screen.

Ending Your Session

Before ending your session, you will want to park Albert (see above). Once you've done this, press the round red button with the phone on it in the upper left-hand part of your screen. This will allow you to exit your video session.

If you close your session at any point before the time window for your session has ended, you will still be able to reconnect with Albert at any point during that window. For example, if you disconnect at 10:45 but your session was scheduled to run from 10:00 to 11:00, you will still be able to reconnect at any point during the next 15 minutes.

Happy Touring!

Albert Quick Command List

Move: Arrow keys
  Forward: Up
  Back: Down

Raise/Lower Camera
  Up: Tall silhouette
  Down: Short Silhouette

Switch to Full Floor View
  Camera button (white)

Adjust Volume
  Speaker button (white)

Take Photo
  Camera button (blue)

Park
  P button (blue)

Disconnect
  Telephone button (red)