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Mobile Makerspace on the move this summer!

Discovery Center, with support from Collins Aerospace, is proud to announce the creation of a Mobile Makerspace - a trailer we attach to our Mobile STEM Lab van that will be fully equipped with materials and supplies needed for maker activities.

The purpose of the Mobile Makerspace is to provide children the opportunity to explore engineering ideas and then apply these understandings to an artistic and imaginative piece of work. Young people will be able to use real tools and materials to design, tinker and invent projects of their own.

Discovery Center staff will take the Mobile Makerspace to a variety of locations and events in the region. This summer, Discovery Center is partnering with the Rockford Public School District and will take the Mobile Makerspace to five local parks where the Rockford Park District is hosting summer playground programs. Playgrounds include Beattie Playground, Harmon Park, Lewis Lemon Park, Mandeville Park, and Ridge Park. We will visit each playground once a week from late June through mid-August. Makerspace projects children will create include creating PVC fountains, boats, ripcord tops, cardboard gravity powered cars, pegboard pinball machines, and pool tube poppers.

See page 2 for a list of donations we would like for Mobile Makerspace projects.

Exhibit news

As you explore Discovery Center, you will see lots of changes with more to come! Coming up this summer:

- **New** fun matching activity in Discovery Park
- **New** nutrition and genetics exhibits in the Body Shop
- **New** exhibit on our first floor that features a fun way to learn about the viscosity of liquids
- **New** light floor in our Body Shop

... and coming this fall:

- **New** permanent Makerspace in the museum!

Donations for Mobile Makerspace needed

In order to have a wide variety of materials for large numbers of children, Discovery Center is asking for donations of:

- Used, small plastic toys: action figures, dolls, cars, trucks (no electronics, large toys, metal toys)
- Wood- soft pine, not treated (no treated lumber plywood or hardwood)
- Buttons
- Thread or wire spools
- Dice
- Game pieces
- Prescription drug containers (clean, labels removed)
- Screw-on beverage caps (no bottles, just caps)
- Film canisters
- Bearings

Donations can be dropped off at our admission desk Tuesday - Sunday from 9:30 am - 4:30 pm. Thank you!

Discovery Town exhibit extended!

Due to popular demand, Discovery Town will remain **open through June 19!** The exhibit is sponsored by Smith Charitable Foundation and JL Clark.



Discovery Center is on Facebook
Check us out and "like" us today!



We're on Instagram!
@DiscoveryCenterMuseum



Pin with us!
Discovery Center has lots of great ideas on Pinterest on subjects such as science activities for kids, holiday crafts and experiments, science books for kids, and more.



We tweet!
Follow @DiscovCenMuseum now!
#DiscoveryCenterMuseum



Family Fridays

All events included with museum admission: \$10/Public; free to Members and all children ages one and younger.



Friday, June 17

EIEIO

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Here a moo, there a moo, everywhere a moo moo. Meet some live animal friends as you explore the sights, sounds, and feel of barnyard life. Create an animal hat, construct a corn husk doll, play barnyard bingo, try your hand at critter crafts and enjoy some furry and feathered babies during this barnyard bonanza of fun!



Friday, June 24

Pixel Playground

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Angry Birds, Pokémon, Minecraft, and more! Use everyday materials to examine the science, math, and engineering that form the scaffolds of your favorite games. Catapults, pinball, tetris blocks, pixel drawing, Pokémon scavenger hunt and more will make for a great gaming adventure! Come in your favorite game attire and catch all the fun.



Friday, July 1

Kaboom

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Strut your stars and stripes as science and art join hands for this patriotic celebration. Witness explosions, send stomp rockets soaring, construct light and sound creations, and create a red, white, and blue masterpiece.



Friday, July 8

Superheroes Unite

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Put on your cape and tune up your spidey senses for this day of "super" fun! Ignite your super powers for incredible feats and amazing heroics. Outwit evil, capture crooks, explore x-ray vision, dodge dangers, and more. Come in costume... your super identity is safe with us!



Friday, July 15

Jim Gill

Show times: 10:00am and 1:00pm

Sing, dance, and sneeze along during a lively performance by this nationally known singer / musician and his accordion playing friend!



Friday, July 22

Fairy Tale Friday

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Grab your tiara, polish your shield and rev up your imagination. Come in costume as your favorite princess, knight, villain or mythical creature. Design a castle, invent ogre ears, and construct a royal crest. Build a house for the three little pigs, climb a beanstalk, and make Humpty Dumpty fall. Check out some fairy tales found in the night sky in a special planetarium show!



Friday, July 29

Winter in July

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Come in out of the heat for some frosty fun! Chill out with dry ice experiments, participate in bone-chilling liquid nitrogen shows, challenge yourself against the treachery of brain-freeze, create cool art, and more!



Friday, August 5

Splatter Art

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

What fun you'll have with drips and drops on this day where art takes center stage! Create masterpieces in unusual ways using fly swatters, paperclips, magnets, shaving cream and more!



Friday, August 12

Construct and Create

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

We've got the materials...you bring the imagination. Choose from cardboard, recycled materials, Lego blocks, and Imagination Playground blocks to create and construct.



Sponsored by:



ILLINOIS
ARTS
COUNCIL
AGENCY



STEM Summer Camps ages 7-12

Our summer camps are nearly sold out, but we DO have openings in the following camps:

July 11–15; 9:00am–12:00pm

AM Environment Investigators

Attention all earth investigators, we've got a job for you! Take a look at how our world works. See the importance of the energy cycle and our role in it. Create a mudslide to see the effects of erosion and how it affects humans and the environment around us. Discover invasive species that we can find in our own backyards and how they affect our ecosystem.

July 11–15; 1:00pm–4:00pm

PM Boom Shake Whoosh

Lightning, tornados, and earthquakes, oh my! Natural disasters can be scary stuff, so let's learn some science and safety behind them. Learn how meteorologists use weather patterns to predict big storms like hurricanes. Learn how engineers design buildings that can withstand earthquakes.



Register

Online: DiscoveryCenterMuseum.org

Call: 815-963-6769

Visit our office: Monday-Friday, 8 am–3:30 pm.

Registration CLOSES 3 pm Monday the week before camp.

Teacher Workshops

Attention all Teachers! Would you like to earn professional development credits while having fun, plus receive materials to share with your students? If so, Discovery Center's Summer Teacher Workshops are for you! Workshop attendees earn 12 PDCs or one hour of graduate credit through St. Francis University. Cost is just \$25 per teacher per class! The workshops are funded by NASA through the Illinois Space Grant Consortium. **Get hands-on lessons and build up your STEM curriculum with workshops including:**



*Register for graduate credit at stfrancis.edu/real/experiential, click on the Boone-Winnebago ROE summer courses.

You will also need to register with Discovery Center.

June 14–16; 9:00 am–1:30 pm STEM in the Classroom

Join us for three days of hands-on STEM projects that you can bring back to your classroom. Get the materials, knowledge, and confidence you need to bring hands-on STEM learning to your students!

Grade Level: K-8;

NGSS standards: ETS1, PS2, PS2.B, PS3, ETS1.A, and ETS1.B

June 28–30; 9:00 am–1:30 pm Earth Science

Investigate the many wonders of planet Earth using hands-on methods and activities. We will create water cycles in a bag, build and eat gummy fossils, create 3-D landforms, and test and identify rocks and minerals.

Grade Level: K-8;

NGSS standards: ESS2.A, ESS3.2, ETS1.B, ESS3.D, and ESS3.B

July 12–14; 9:00 am–1:30 pm Environmental Science 1: Plants, Animals, & Ecosystems

Explore the exciting topic of ecology and how living organisms relate to their physical environment. We'll supply materials for you to repeat the activities with your class!

Grade Level: K-8;

NGSS standards: LS1, LS2, LS3, and LS4

July 26 - 28; 9:00 am to 1:30 pm Environmental Science 2: Climate & Natural Disasters

Examine how humans impact the earth by exploring various topics such as pollution, global warming, climate vs. weather, and natural disasters.

Grade Level: K-8;

NGSS standards: PS3, LS1, LS2, ESS2, ESS3.B and ESS3.D

Bubble Festival slated for September 10

Save the date for this Discovery Center tradition!

Bubble-celebrity Ben Jimenez will combine art, science and a touch of magic in his live performances on Saturday, September 10. Enjoy Ben's 30-minute show and afterward pop outside to the Bubble-Palooza Playground (weather permitting) to devise your own brilliant bubbly tricks as you test your soapy skills with bubble art, math, and science activities for the whole family!

Show times: 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 2:00 pm. Shows at 10:00 and 11:00 am are geared toward preschoolers, while the afternoon shows incorporate more science into the content, but are still fun for all ages! *Stay tuned for information on tickets later this summer on our website and social media channels.*



Summer volunteer opportunities for teens

Are you 13 to 17 years old and looking for something fun to do over the summer months? Do you need service hours for school, scouts or clubs? Do you like working with children and want to give back to your community? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then consider becoming a Y.E.S. (Youth Experiencing Science) volunteer! Here are just a few things volunteers do at the museum:

- Help families create art projects in the Art Studio
- Run a station at a special event
- Play with children in the museum
- Assist with cleaning
- Attend off-site programs (e.g. Rockford City Market)



To learn more, go to our website and fill out a volunteer application today!

Blue Star Museum participation

Discovery Center is proud to participate once again with the Blue Star Museums program. Discovery Center, in addition to more than 2,000 museums across America, is offering **free admission** to active duty military personnel including National Guard and Reserve and their families this summer now through September 5. Blue Star Museums is collaboration with the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, and the Department of Defense.



The free admission program is available to any bearer of a Geneva Convention common access card (CAC), a DD Form 1173 ID card (dependent ID), or a DD Form 1173-1 ID card and up to five family members.

Fun for Everyone

Fun for Everyone is a fantastic opportunity for children with developmental differences and their immediate families to get Discovery Center all to themselves **FREE of charge!** These special sessions include expanded museum exploration time as well as hands-on science fun.

Our next *Fun for Everyone* is slated for **Monday, June 13 from 10:00 am -12:00 pm**. Reservations required. To register and be added to the *Fun for Everyone* email list, email amandago@discoverycentermuseum.org

Fun for Everyone events made possible thanks to support from:



Secret Garden Summer Activities

Join us in the Secret Garden each Thursday at 10:30 am for stories, songs and art activities.



June 16
Music & Fun with
Fred & Friends

June 23
Author Barb Kohl
reads “The Mystery of
Hattie’s Lost Tooth”

June 30
Red, White, & Blue

July 7
Music & Fun with
Fred & Friends

July 14
Blast Off

July 21
Monkeying Around

July 28
Author Barb Kohl reads
“Hattie’s New Friend”

August 4
Music & Fun with
Fred & Friends

August 11
Under the Sea

Thank you volunteers

This spring Discovery Center received an infusion of energy thanks to volunteers from several local organizations including Associated Bank, Lutheran High School and Thermo Fisher Scientific.

If you, your child, your company or your school would like to volunteer, contact Volunteer Coordinator Amanda Gray-Orlando at AmandaGO@discoverycentermuseum.org for more information.



Associated Bank



Thermo Fisher Scientific



Rockford Lutheran High School



Volunteer luncheon

Discovery Center is fortunate to have a group of dedicated retired individuals who assist with museum exhibit maintenance, repairs and creation. One volunteer has been helping Discovery Center for 23 years! We are extremely thankful for these individuals. If you are interested in joining this terrific group, contact Exhibits Director Bruce Quast at BruceQ@discoverycentermuseum.org.



Save the date for Countdown to Kindergarten!

August 19; 4:30-7:30 pm

Is your child getting ready for preschool or kindergarten? Join us at Discovery Center on August 19 for school readiness fun at *Countdown to Kindergarten!* Children can practice ABC's, use scissors to make art, and play games to get ready for school.

STEM on the Rock program a success



Discovery Center is always looking for ways to connect with children, whether onsite at our museum or through outreach programs. STEM on the Rock is a program to bring STEM programming and informal mentoring to youth in Rockford. The program targets middle school students who might not have access to STEM resources or mentors to make science and engineering relatable and viewed as a viable career option.



This past school year we partnered with YMCA Teen Reach program and the Teen REACH Youth program at Booker Washington Center. We traveled to both sites biweekly and provided science and engineering activities for youth in their programs. The majority of these activities were projects that students took home and shared with their families and friends. We look forward to returning in the fall with new science challenges!



Members save 10% in the gift shop



When visiting the museum, don't forget to stop in our gift shop... *Discoveries To Go!* We have hundreds of unique kid-friendly items such as STEM and STEAM kits, science experiments you can try at home, plush animals and many other science-related items. Members receive 10% off any gift shop purchase! The gift shop is open Tuesday-Sunday from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm.

INFORMATION:

Summer Hours

Tuesday-Sunday:
9:30 am-4:30 pm

Online tickets available.
Walk-ins are welcome.

Admission

Adult/Child: \$10
Children age 1 and younger and Members: FREE!

Contact Us

Phone: (815) 963-6769
Website: discoverycentermuseum.org

Our Mission

Create opportunities for playful learning and discovery through hands-on experiences in the sciences and arts.

Membership

CLIMB SuperPass: \$190/year

Family SuperPass: \$135/year

Family Membership:
\$100/year; \$190/2 years

Grandparent Membership:
\$100/year; \$190/2 years

Caregiver Membership:
\$30/year

Group Rates

Discounted group rates are available for tours, classes, museum rentals, and birthday parties. Reservations required.

Staff

Sarah Wolf.....Executive Director
Tori Davidson.....Education Specialist
Chase Fischer.....Education Specialist
Lee Ann Gill.....Education Specialist/Scout Coordinator
Amanda Gray-Orlando.....Volunteer & Special Projects Coordinator
Kyler Hartje.....Exhibits Technician/Planetarium Technician
Michele Larson.....Gift Shop Manager/Birthday Party Coordinator
Renee Linstead.....Administrative Assistant
Cheryl Maggio.....Accountant
Lana Paris.....Development Director
Bruce Quast.....Exhibits Director
Mike Rathbun.....Associate Director
Heidi Vasel.....Guest Services Manager
Andrea Vesecky.....Early Childhood Educator
Ann Marie Walker.....Marketing Director
Jessica Williams.....Education Specialist

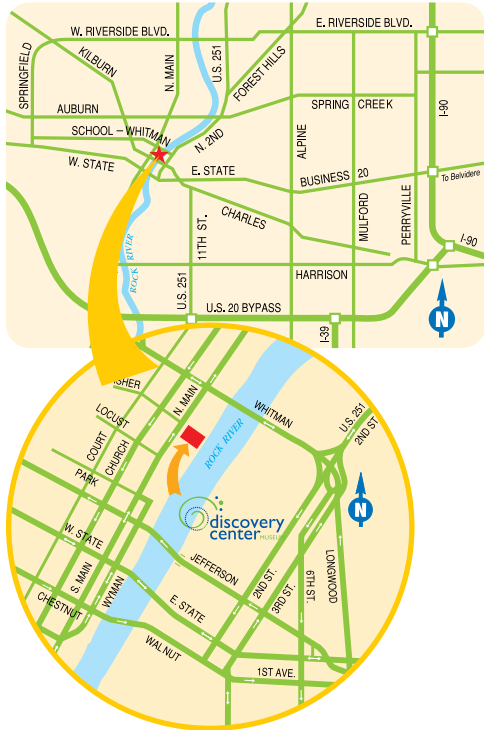
COVID Policies

Masks are encouraged but not required.
We respect and ask others to respect the choice of guests who choose to continue wearing a mask.



At Riverfront Museum Park
 711 North Main Street
 Rockford, IL 61103
 815.963.6769
www.discoverycentermuseum.org

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Rockford, IL
 Permit No. 1011



Address Service Requested

Guest Reviews

This place is ahhhhMazing! We bought a membership this year and so glad we did! We go once a week and my kids 4 & 1 only are able to explore only 1/4 of it each time which is perfect. The staff here are so interactive too, they show them how to make bubbles, one guy even dressed up and did a whole pirate fight with my 4yo, it was so sweet to see. Thanks for being such a great time.

- LH

Awesome place!! My 7 year old had a lot of fun, interesting facts everywhere for adults to enjoy as well! :)

- Jenelle

My five kids, ranging in age from two to eleven, had so much fun here. The outdoor playground impressed my kids and occupied them for a long time. There is plenty to do inside, too.

- Nina

Came here when I was a kid! It's awesome to see new upgrades since then and beloved exhibits that I grew up with. I took my 2-year-old son for the first time and he loved it! Definitely would come again and for the price would consider a membership as well.

- Brooke

Definitely a great family friendly space to help your children learn and have fun at the same time.

- KP

Nice place to bring your kids to enjoy educational activities and hang with family.

- Kisha

Love this place and all there is to do at an affordable price.

- Amy



We have birthday parties down to a science!

Our fun-filled hassle-free parties are \$300 (\$100 deposit) for up to 15 people. This includes admission into the museum as well as use of our private Discovery Room. We're currently offering parties on Saturdays and Sundays from 10-Noon or 1-3 pm. Members receive a 10% discount. Please check our website for more details.