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## Take a road trip to Discovery Town!

Everyone's favorite kid-size town will be returning to Discovery Center soon! It's a friendly little town with a focus on fun! Hours of imaginative role-play are in store for visitors to Discovery Town. Located in our Woodward Exhibit Hall, Discovery Town offers a collection of storefronts where our youngest citizens are the shopkeepers and customers as they learn about the people and roles that make up a community. In Discovery Town, children can:

- sort the mail and fill their bag at the Post Office before delivering mail throughout town
- give a pretend furry friend a checkup at the Vet Clinic and beautify your pet at the grooming table
- create and serve pizza or be a customer at the Pizza Shop
- dress up as a firefighter at the Fire Station, drive the fire truck and extinguish a pretend fire
- work at the Airport and pilot a plane or load the cargo
- visit Discovery Town park to enjoy a picnic and play a game of miniature golf or beanbag toss
- serve pretend lemonade at the Lemonade Stand



Previous visitors to Discovery Town will notice a few changes. We've added a **school classroom** where children can play school and enjoy school-themed activities. We've also added a **zoo** to Discovery Town. Be sure to see the giant giraffe!

**Discovery Town opens January 22. Drop by for a visit and bring your imagination!**

Sponsored in part by:



January 22  
to May 22

**Admission**  
Members: FREE  
Public: \$1 + Museum admission



## Updates to Ag-Zibit gallery



Ag-Zibit is a favorite area of the museum for many of our members and guests. Children enjoy climbing into the tractor, making corn husk dolls or gathering eggs at the chicken coop. The most popular activity in Ag-Zibit is milking the cows. Our museum staff has been proud to present a hands-on, realistic cow milking simulation since we added the Ag-Zibit gallery in 2010. The exhibit has incurred its share of wear

and tear over the years, and is currently undergoing renovation. The cows are being repaired and repainted, and the systems that make the simulation work are also being rebuilt. We are adding new informational graphics to the Dairy corner of Ag-Zibit, along with a new touchscreen matching game. These changes are happening courtesy of our friends at Midwest Dairy, who have funded this project.



## Fun for Everyone



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

Mark your 2022 calendar with days and times listed below! Reservations required. To register and be added to the Fun for Everyone email list, email [amandago@discoverycentermuseum.org](mailto:amandago@discoverycentermuseum.org)



### Wednesday, January 26, 5:30-7:30 pm

Welcome to Discovery Town - experience this pint-size community full of shops, and fun activities!

### Saturday, February 26, 8:30-9:30 am

Take part in special activities as you build your own Discovery Town! Feel free to stay and play in the museum during the public session from 9:30-12:00.

### Tuesday, March 22, 5:30-7:30 pm

Join us for a night of invention, construction, and innovation as we offer special engineering activities!

### Wednesday, April 13, 5:30-7:30 pm

Hunt for eggs and fill your basket with treats at this special egg hunt!

### Thursday, May 12, 5:30-7:30 pm

Wear your favorite pajamas for an evening at the museum as you say "goodnight" and "goodbye" to Discovery Town!

*Fun for Everyone events made possible thanks to support from:*



## Fantastic fun for scouts

Discovery Center is the perfect destination for scouts! Girls and boys at every level can explore STEM concepts through hands-on exhibits, activities, and experiments. Make Discovery Center your location for a Cub Pack family gathering, Girl Scout neighborhood or service unit retreat, or badge workshop! Choose from many custom programs and immerse your scouts in fun and playful STEM Learning. For more information about scout badge workshops, visit our website at [DiscoveryCenterMuseum.org/education/scouts](http://DiscoveryCenterMuseum.org/education/scouts)



Discovery Center is on Facebook

Check us out and "like" us today!

We're on Instagram!

@DiscoveryCenterMuseum



Pin with us!

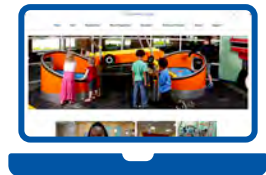
Discovery Center has lots of great ideas on Pinterest on subjects such as science activities for kids, holiday crafts and experiments, science books for kids, and more.



We tweet!

Follow @DiscovCenMuseum now!

#DiscoveryCenterMuseum



## Virtual science, art projects and story times for winter and spring fun

Don't forget to check out our website ([DiscoveryCenterMuseum.org/whats-happening/playfullearning](http://DiscoveryCenterMuseum.org/whats-happening/playfullearning)) and YouTube channel for fun at-home science activities, art projects, storytimes and more. Follow us on social media for more science ideas, information on upcoming events, and more.

# Discovery Town Events

**Advance registration required.** Register online at [DiscoveryCenterMuseum.org](http://DiscoveryCenterMuseum.org) or call 815-963-6769. Face coverings required for everyone ages 2 and older.

Saturday, January 22

## Discovery Town Exhibit Opening Day

9:30 am-12:00 pm and 1-4:00 pm

Welcome to Discovery Town! This pint-size community is full of places to go and people to see. Along with shops and stores and everyday activities, take part in opening day super-special art and crafts that the whole family will love! Included with Discovery Town admission: \$11 for Public; Free for Members and all children ages 1 and younger.

Saturday, February 26

## Build Your Own Discovery Town

9:30 am-12:00 pm and 1-4:00 pm

Flex your creative muscles on this day devoted to creating a child-size town from your choice of recycled materials, Lego blocks, Imagination Playground blocks and more. Build a town to take home or work together with other families on a larger project. Included with Discovery Town admission: \$11 for Public; Free for Members and all children ages 1 and younger.

May 20

## Goodnight Discovery Town

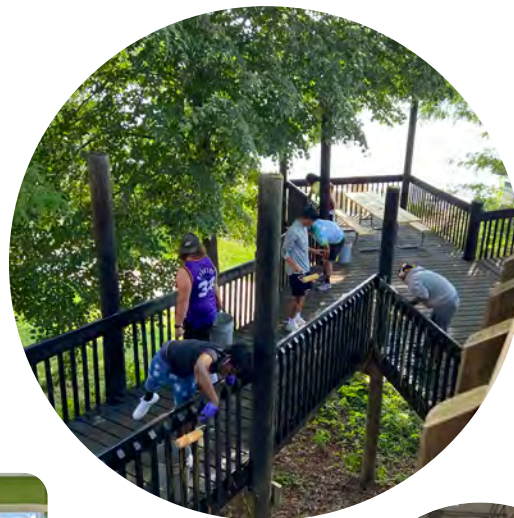
6-8:00 pm

Wear your favorite pajamas for an evening at the museum as you say "goodnight" and "goodbye" to Discovery Town. Enjoy milk and cookies and celestial crafts before heading home to dreamland! Included with Discovery Town admission: \$11 for Public; Free for Members and all children ages 1 and younger.



## Volunteers are vital to Discovery Center

Discovery Center is extremely thankful for the many groups and individuals who volunteered their time to help Discovery Center in 2021. Volunteers helped build, maintain and repair exhibits, clean and sanitize exhibits, maintain the outdoor park and assist with activities at events. This fall we had a number of outside groups volunteer their time with us. Those include employees from Belcan and Collins Aerospace, and students from Belvidere North Key Club, Lutheran High School, Rockford Christian Key Club, Rockford University, and University of Illinois College of Medicine - Rockford.



Discovery Center "Rocks" according to the Rockford community. Thanks to all that voted us best "Child-friendly Place!" for 2021!

For more than 10 years, we've been a "What Rocks" winner!



# Tot Spot Classes

**Cost:** \$12 public/ \$10 members (per child, per class).  
Preregistration required; payment must accompany registration.

*In our classes for 2-year-olds, children must be accompanied by an adult. At this time, we are limiting the number of people in the room for Tot Spot classes (ages 3 - 6) so parents are requested to wait outside and not accompany their child into the Tot Spot classroom.*

**Registration:** Register online at [www.discoverycentermuseum.org/education/classes](http://www.discoverycentermuseum.org/education/classes), call (815) 963-6769, or drop by Discovery Center Museum office during normal business hours. Cancellation policy: Refunds are available through the close of registration, minus 10%. Discovery Center reserves the right to cancel events; in which case, a full refund will be issued.



**COVID-19 Protocols:** In accordance with state and local health guidelines, all children, guardians and staff will be required to wear face coverings (over nose and mouth). Exceptions can be made for people with medical conditions or disabilities that prevent them from safely covering their nose and mouth.



## Fantastic Flight

Soar in to explore different ways to make things fly! Discover different animals and objects that take flight, launch a rocket, and create your own flying machine to take home.

**Sessions for 3- to 6-year-olds:**  
Session 1 Tues., Jan 11; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 2 Wed., Jan 12; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 3 Wed., Jan 12; 1:00–2:00 p.m.  
Session 4 Thurs., Jan 13; 11:00–Noon  
Session 5 Fri., Jan 14; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 6 Sat., Jan 15; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

**Sessions for 2-year-olds:**  
(With an adult, NO siblings, please.)  
Session 7 Tues., Jan 11; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 8 Wed., Jan 12; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 9 Thurs., Jan 13; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 10 Fri., Jan 14; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

## Let's Make Some Noise

Come get noisy with us! Enjoy a LOUD story, explore the sounds different objects make, and create instruments out of recycled materials to take home.

**Sessions for 3- to 6-year-olds:**  
Session 1 Tues., Jan 25; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 2 Wed., Jan 26; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 3 Wed., Jan 26; 1:00–2:00 p.m.  
Session 4 Thurs., Jan 27; 11:00–Noon  
Session 5 Fri., Jan 28; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 6 Sat., Jan 29; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

**Sessions for 2-year-olds:**  
(With an adult, NO siblings, please.)  
Session 7 Tues., Jan 25; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 8 Wed., Jan 26; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 9 Thurs., Jan 27; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 10 Fri., Jan 28; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

## Ooey Goey Chemistry

Come get messy as we discover the science of mixing things together! Become a scientist as we experiment with colors, basic chemical reactions, and create slime to take home.

**Sessions for 3- to 6-year-olds:**  
Session 1 Tues., Feb 8; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 2 Wed., Feb 9; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 3 Wed., Feb 9; 1:00–2:00 p.m.  
Session 4 Thurs., Feb 10; 11:00–Noon  
Session 5 Fri., Feb 11; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 6 Sat., Feb 12; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

**Sessions for 2-year-olds:**  
(With an adult, NO siblings, please.)  
Session 7 Tues., Feb 8; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 8 Wed., Feb 9; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 9 Thurs., Feb 10; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 10 Fri., Feb 11; 9:30-10:30 a.m.



## Build It Bigger

How high can you build a tower? How strong can you build a boat? Explore engineering and learn about the building process as we use lots of different materials to construct and create towers, bridges, and more.

**Sessions for 3- to 6-year-olds:**  
Session 1 Tues., Feb 22; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 2 Wed., Feb 23; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 3 Wed., Feb 23; 1:00–2:00 p.m.  
Session 4 Thurs., Feb 24; 11:00–Noon  
Session 5 Fri., Feb 25; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 6 Sat., Feb 26; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

**Sessions for 2-year-olds:**  
(With an adult, NO siblings, please.)  
Session 7 Tues., Feb 22; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 8 Wed., Feb 23; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 9 Thurs., Feb 24; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 10 Fri., Feb 25; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

## All About Animals

Roar, slither, and hop into class as we explore the world of animals! Discover new things about some of our favorite animals as we learn about different animal tails, construct a giant bird's nest, and create animals to take home using unusual art materials.

**Sessions for 3- to 6-year-olds:**  
Session 1 Tues., Mar 8; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 2 Wed., Mar 9; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 3 Wed., Mar 9; 1:00–2:00 p.m.  
Session 4 Thurs., Mar 10; 11:00–Noon  
Session 5 Fri., Mar 11; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 6 Sat., Mar 12; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

**Sessions for 2-year-olds:**  
(With an adult, NO siblings, please.)  
Session 7 Tues., Mar 8; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 8 Wed., Mar 9; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 9 Thurs., Mar 10; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 10 Fri., Mar 11; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

## Rolling Ramps

Roll into class and get ready to move as we experiment with ramps! Explore friction and angles as we construct ramps to uncover why things roll, as well as create art using inclined planes.

**Sessions for 3- to 6-year-olds:**  
Session 1 Tues., Apr 5; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 2 Wed., Apr 6; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 3 Wed., Apr 6; 1:00–2:00 p.m.  
Session 4 Thurs., Apr 7; 11:00–Noon  
Session 5 Fri., Apr 8; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 6 Sat., Apr 9; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

**Sessions for 2-year-olds:**  
(With an adult, NO siblings, please.)  
Session 7 Tues., Apr 5; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 8 Wed., Apr 6; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 9 Thurs., Apr 7; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 10 Fri., Apr 8; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

## Exploring Magnets

Explore the power of magnets and discover what makes something magnetic. Use magnets to build tall towers, use magnet wands to find hidden letters, and even create a painting!

**Sessions for 3- to 6-year-olds:**  
Session 1 Tues., Apr 19; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 2 Wed., Apr 20; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 3 Wed., Apr 20; 1:00–2:00 p.m.  
Session 4 Thurs., Apr 21; 11:00–Noon  
Session 5 Fri., Apr 22; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 6 Sat., Apr 23; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

**Sessions for 2-year-olds:**  
(With an adult, NO siblings, please.)  
Session 7 Tues., Apr 19; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 8 Wed., Apr 20; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 9 Thurs., Apr 21; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 10 Fri., Apr 22; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

## Getting Ready for Kindergarten

Join our classroom as we get ready for Kindergarten! Enjoy stories, explore shapes and patterns, sing your ABC's, and play with new friends as we practice skills that will get us ready for school.

**Sessions for 3- to 6-year-olds:**  
Session 1 Tues., May 3; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 2 Wed., May 4; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 3 Wed., May 4; 1:00–2:00 p.m.  
Session 4 Thurs., May 5; 11:00–Noon  
Session 5 Fri., May 6; 11:00 a.m.–Noon  
Session 6 Sat., May 7; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

**Sessions for 2-year-olds:**  
(With an adult, NO siblings, please.)  
Session 7 Tues., May 3; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 8 Wed., May 4; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 9 Thurs., May 5; 9:30–10:30 a.m.  
Session 10 Fri., May 6; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

## Toddler Time

Being one is FUN! Take advantage of this playgroup designed for children ages 12 months to 24 months as we sing songs, read stories and explore interesting materials while meeting new friends! Toddler Time is held from 9:30–10:30 am on one Tuesday and Thursday each month. Choose from these dates: January 18, January 20, February 15, February 17, March 15, March 17, April 12, April 14, May 10, and May 12. Enrollment is limited to 6 families. The class costs \$6.00 per child for members and \$8.00 child for the public, and advance registration is required. To register, follow the link under education or call 815-963-6769. Toddler Time meets in the Tot Spot classroom (main floor, east end of the building).



# Home School / Enrichment Classes

**Ages:** 7 and older

**Dates/Times:** Choose a date that works for you!  
Tuesday or Thursday from 10:00-11:30 am or Thursday from 12:30-2:00 pm.

**Cost:** \$12 Members / \$14 Non-members per child per class. Advance registration required. Payment must accompany registration. Registration deadline for classes is the Monday prior to the week of class. Register for classes on our website or by calling 815-963-6769.

**COVID-19 Protocols:** In accordance with state and local health guidelines, all students and staff will be required to wear face coverings (over nose and mouth). Exceptions can be made for people with medical conditions or disabilities that prevent them from safely covering their nose and mouth.



## January 25 or 27 Muscles: Make 'Em Move

Muscles, we've all got them, we all use them, but how do they work? Learn how your muscles operate, create a muscle model, and experience the shocking science of how electricity helps move our muscles.



## April 5 or 7 Weird and Wacky Water

Water, water everywhere...who knew it is so cool? Why don't all fish freeze in the winter? Why does water stick to windows? How do some bugs glide across the surface of water? Learn about the amazing properties of water that help keep our world working!



## February 8 or 10 Microscope Madness

Explore the world of microscopic organisms in this up close class! Learn how to use a microscope, take a close up look at bugs, plants, bacteria, and human tissues! Discover a world just beyond the naked eye.



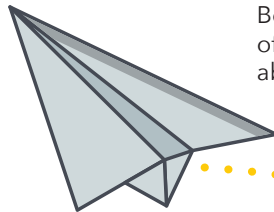
## April 19 or 21 Chem-mystery

Transform into a science super sleuth and decipher how some crazy chemistry conundrums work! Engage in hands-on experiments and test your theories to explore some brain bending science mysteries.



## February 22 or 24 Take Flight

3...2...1... BLAST OFF! Launch into the physics of flight as we learn how to make world record airplanes, engineer our own "aerogami" launchers, and tweak our planes to complete the ultimate paper plane challenge!



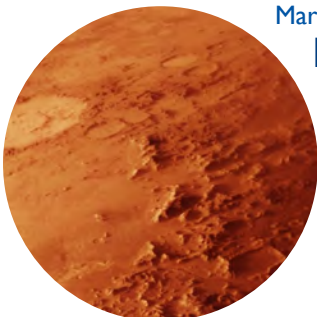
## May 3 or 5 Artificial Intelligence: Electric Brains

What is artificial intelligence? How does it work? How does it learn? How can we use it? Become an AI explorer as you learn some of the basics of artificial intelligence and about how computer logic works.



## March 8 or 10 Mission to Mars

What will it take to live on the Red Planet? Join NASA as they plan to send the first humans to Mars and design a habitat that can keep astronauts safe from the dangers of our rocky, cold and desolate neighbor.



## 2021 Corporate Supporters, Foundations and Grants

We thank the following donors for their generous support of Discovery Center exhibits, events, educational programs and operations.

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and Library Services  
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Many thanks to our generous donors whose annual gifts support the exhibits, activities, and programs at Discovery Center Museum.

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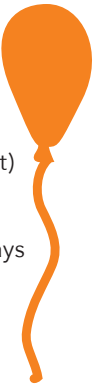
*In Memory of  
Tressa Anderson*  
Ann Alves  
Maija Liisa Barancik  
Susan Huntting  
Gary & Sally Jouris  
Roger & Nancy  
Lundstrom  
Sam & Joyce Mazzola  
Rex & Carol Parker  
Larry & Kathleen  
Phillip  
Joan Stonecipher  
Lynne Vass  
  
*In Memory of  
James Biesiadecki*  
Rae Biesiadecki  
  
*In memory of  
Steve Kaiser*  
Barbara Kaiser  
  
*In Memory of  
Kent Talmage-Bowers*  
Kris & Patti Tumilowicz

## Rent Discovery Center for private playtime

Want to do something special and unique for your family, group or school? Rent Discovery Center and have the exhibits all to yourself! The museum is fun for kids of all ages...those who are young and those who are young at heart. Cost to rent the whole museum is \$500 for Members and \$550 for the Public for up to 250 guests (subject to change as COVID capacity guidelines evolve). For more information, email us at [rentals@discoverycentermuseum.org](mailto:rentals@discoverycentermuseum.org).

## 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 9:30-Noon or 1-4:00 pm. Members receive a 10% discount. Please check our website for more details.



### INFORMATION:

#### Winter Hours

**Wednesday-Sunday:**  
9:30 am-Noon  
and 1-4:00 pm

Advance online or phone registration required.

#### Admission

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

#### Contact Us

**Phone:** (815) 963-6769

**Website:** [discoverycentermuseum.org](http://discoverycentermuseum.org)

**Address:** 711 North Main Street  
Rockford IL, 61103

#### 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.

#### Our Mission

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

#### 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*  
Andrea Vesecky..... *Early Childhood Educator*  
Ann Marie Walker..... *Marketing Director*  
Jessica Williams..... *Education Specialist*

#### COVID Policies

Advance registration required. All guests ages 2 and older are required to wear cloth or disposable masks over their mouth and nose while inside the museum regardless of vaccination status for the health and safety of all the unvaccinated children in the museum.

