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The Latest From the Science Factory:

PLANETARIUM TO BECOME "EXPLORATION DOME"

On January 30, the Science Factory will unveil the upgraded theater of the Planetarium and give it a new name that communicates its true educational potential: "Exploration Dome."

The upgrade includes a Mediaglobe-II full-dome digital projector, capable of displaying the most advanced CG technology, a state-of-the-art surround sound system, and enhanced lighting. The Science Factory Exploration Dome will deliver truly immersive virtual adventures that will engage all the senses, making it a highly rewarding and powerful educational experience.

In order to complete the upgrade, the Planetarium and its programs will be closed December 28, 2009 - January 30, 2010. But we think what you see

when it reopens will be well worth the wait! The good news is: **We'll be holding a special members-only Exploration Dome Grand Opening at the end of January and the Science Factory Exploration Dome will open to the public on February 1, 2010 with a whole new set of shows!** Stay tuned for more information!



Announcing the EXPLORATION DOME CAMPAIGN

A long-term goal of Science Factory Board and Staff has been to lovingly upgrade the outdated equipment in the Planetarium that has delivered an essential part of Science Factory programming for years. When it became clear that our equipment, purchased in 1979, was becoming unreliable and increasingly expensive to maintain, the Board immediately launched the **Exploration Dome Campaign** and set a goal of \$300,000 to raise funds for the essential upgrade. Thanks to the Board and a cadre of major donors and sponsors, we are over 1/3rd of the way there! We'd like to thank the Ann & Bill Swindells Charitable Trust, Eugene Active 20/30 Club, Eugene Active 20/30 Foundation, Dave Moursund, PeaceHealth and Betsy Halpern and others for getting the Exploration Dome launched! To learn more about how you can become a part of the Exploration Dome Campaign today, please contact the Science Factory directly at 682-7888.

See Current Planetarium Shows Through December

Planetarium Shows "Up in the Sky" plays every Saturday and Sunday at 1pm and "Dangerous Voyage" plays every Saturday and Sunday at 2pm throughout December.

IN THE EXHIBIT HALL

Your Healer Within Continues

The Science Factory continues to present A.T. Still University's **Your Healer Within** traveling exhibit, where kids can learn about how their bodies, minds and spiritual outlook can be harnessed to maintain and improve health. This exhibit empowers kids to take responsibility for their own well-being through 39 fun and interactive stations that engage the senses and open the mind to the benefits of healthy habits. The Science Factory would also like to extend an extra special thank you to the major sponsors that brought Your Healer Within to the Eugene / Springfield area.



[See YouTube Footage on the Exhibit =>](#)

MAKE CHRISTMAS AS EASY AS 1, 2, 3...

1. Sign up for Holiday Science Adventures: Monday - Wednesday, December 21-23

Need time to shop? Even though your children are on vacation, their brains don't have to be. These half day camp programs offered during the holiday break allow your 6-8 year olds to explore a variety of fun science topics while participating in exciting hands-on activities. They can choose to meet some unusual animals, explore their toy engineering creativity, learn about kitchen chemistry while making candy, or do all of them! Learn more about our Holiday Science Camps on our [web site](#).

2. Give a Science Factory Membership Passport!



Entertaining, educational and thoroughly interactive, a Science Factory Membership Passport offers:

- Unlimited free admission to the Science Factory Exhibit Hall,
- Free admission or discounts to over 270 other Association of Science and Technology Centers (including the best in OR),
- Buy 1/get 1 free to 20 member facilities of the NW Association of Youth Museums,
- Discounts on summer camps, classes, birthday parties, and much more!

Join now and get ready for a fabulous year of family fun in 2010!

[MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION =>](#)

3. Come to Our Gift Shop!

Budgets are tight this year, which makes holiday shopping a challenge. Fortunately, the Science Factory gift store is bursting with quality, educational gifts that won't break the bank. We've stocked up on all your favorites like Newton's Cradles, Astronaut Ice Cream, Geyser Tubes, and Mystical Gardens. Plus check out these items:

- NEW! Evolving Toys' Small Boxes BIG Play: a new line of children's educational card games.
- Dinosaur finger puppets: five dynamite dinosaur puppets for your digits - create a prehistoric production of epic proportions!
- LOCALLY MADE! We've got a whole rainbow's worth of colors of Mary's Softdough, including glitter varieties and glow in the dark.
- Stocking stuffers galore, many of which are under \$1: geodes, mini-paint sets, Jacob's ladders, tornado tubes - how much science can you stuff into a sock?

There's something for everyone on your list - and your purchase supports Science Factory operations, which makes it a gift to us. Thank you!

SCIENCE FACTORY CLOSURES

*** **GO DUCKS!** *** The Science Factory is closed on **Thursday, December 3rd for the CIVIL WAR GAME for the ROSES** (and frankly it's pretty dramatic).

The Science Factory is closed **December 24 - 25, 2009**, in observance of you guessed it, Christmas! We are also closed on **January 1, 2010** for New Year's.

The Planetarium will be closed for upgrade from December 28, 2009 - January 30, 2010. The Science Factory Exhibit Hall will be OPEN as regularly scheduled. Please note that all Planetarium shows will run in December as scheduled, and are not affected. Planetarium shows will resume (and better than before!) on February 1, 2010.

Programming and Announcements

DON'T MISS THESE EARLY DECEMBER EVENTS

Tot Discovery Day

Join us for Arctic Animals on **Tot Discovery Day** on Friday, December 4 from 10 AM - Noon. Your toddler will find out what it is like to live in a land of ice and cold. They will investigate polar bears, seals and whales and also make and play with their own snow. We'll even take a look at the Antarctic to find out about penguins! Learn more about Tot Discovery Day on our [web site](#).



Raptors Landing at the Science Factory for Bird of Prey Day



On Saturday, December 5, from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Education Director Kit Lacy from the Cascades Raptor Center will be visiting the Science Factory with some of the Center's fine, feathered friends for **Bird of Prey Day**. Science Factory visitors will be able to see live raptors, such as hawks, owls and vultures, up close and personal. They will learn what a raptor is, how they survive, and how to identify local raptors as well as areas where they may be most likely to see them. Visitors will also be invited to ask raptor-related questions, and handle artifacts like talons, feathers and pellets. Learn more about Bird of Prey Day on our [web site](#).

SIGN UP FOR HOLIDAY SCIENCE ADVENTURES

Monday - Wednesday, December 21-23

These half day camp programs offered during the holiday break allow your 6-8 year olds to explore a variety of fun science topics while participating in exciting hands-on activities. They can choose to meet some unusual animals, explore their toy engineering creativity, learn about kitchen chemistry while making candy, or do all of them! Learn more about our Holiday Science Camps on our [web site](#).

ANNOUNCING A NEW RESOURCE FOR PARENTS AND EDUCATORS

Changing Brains, released by the University of Oregon Brain Development Lab

Have you ever wondered how and when experiences shape the brain system important for vision, motor skills, music? The University of Oregon Brain Development Lab has just released "Changing Brains," a program for parents, educators and policy-makers on how a child's brain develops, how experience shapes a child's brain systems, and the scientific studies behind the "Changing Brains" program. You can order the DVD, or watch "Changing Brains" online at www.changingbrains.org.

Science Fun Fact: Not all bacteria are bad...

Some Bacteria are Your Best Friends

Right now you have about 100 trillion bacteria living in your intestines, ten times more cells than are part of your actual body. Though this may sound unhealthy, you could not survive without them. These tiny organisms are helping you to digest your food. So though you want to watch out for some species of bacteria, there are types of bacteria that you may want to add to your Christmas card list.

Thank You, Volunteers!

For all you do...

Thank you Breanna, Josh & Ethan for keeping the place tip-top! Thank you to Bailey Bernheine, Chris Correll, and Diane Durrett for helping us out on Toxic Testing Day. Thanks to Daniel Cordova for all his work during Web Design Camp, Leslie Lintner for helping out on Tot Day, and LeeAnn Hansen for her regular assistance "backstage." And thank you to everyone else for all you do: Dave Bartling, Chris Correll, Linda Ferdowsian, Hannah Froemming, Mike Lobel. We appreciate you.

Thank You, Donors and Sponsors!

The Science Factory couldn't do it without your help!

Businesses: Albertson's Community Partners Program, Dari-Mart Stores, Inc., Eugene Senior Sports Group, Twin Rivers Plumbing

Individuals: Virginia & Chandler Barkelew, Robert Choi, Amanda Gomez, Dave & Pat McDaniels, Marta Powers, Martha Ravits, Vicky Scheuerell, Philip J. Siemens, Derek & Ann Marie Simmons, Robert & Edith Sorenson

In-Kind: ESPN College Game Day, Pepsi-Cola Bottling of Eugene, Thompson Landscape

Thank You to our EXPLORATION DOME Donors and Sponsors to date:

Ann & Bill Swindells Charitable Trust, Eugene Active 20/30 Club, Eugene Active 20/30 Foundation, Dave Moursund, PeaceHealth, Betsy Halpern, Billy Balsom & Elizabeth Pownall, Jennifer Bell, Sarah Cheesman, Peter Davis, Bill & Martha Harris, Ray & Sharon Hull, Patrick Logan, Phil Means & Sharon Trigg, Kim Miller, Simoni Engineering, Bob & Ruth Sylwester, Harry Wolcott.

Welcome, New Science Factory Members!

Join us in welcoming our newest members:

Naomi and Waylon Brown, Lin Bruce and Kim Jennings, Becky and Pete Cacioppi, Jennifer Carter Rosales and Nelson Rosales, Sarah Cheesman and Josh Bruce, Ellen Clancy and Edward Duggan, Mechelle Coburn and William Roeske, Carrie and Joe Connelly, Melissa and Daniel Cunningham, John and Dora Danielson, Scott and Christie Davis, Danielle and Dan DeGrange, Pam and Keith Dieter, Michelle and Felix Epperson, Mara Fields and Alex Zamora, Sara and David Flores, Kelly Froats, Sarita Glassburner and Phil Vigil, Darrell and Julie Green, Gabriel Hamel and Alyssa Wagner, Char Heitman and Phil Moore, Matthew G. and Lisa L. Hunter, David Hurst and Gulruku Rizvi, Wendy and Charlie Jett, Annette M. and Larry J. Konnie, Hilary Kretchmer and David Fulp, Bruce and Gwen Landon, Jaeho and Youngmee Lee, Amy and Brad Leland, Kendra Lodewick and Nico Larco, Kristie and Chandler Long, Kim and Mark McBee, Ruth Anne and Joe McCormack, Robert and Sheridan Miller, Charlotte Moats-Gallagher and Andy Gallagher, Julie and Bill Morach, Jamie and Dave Myers, Johnathan and Courtney Nixon, Changmin Oh and Jeong Nam Park, Susan and George Parker, Sheri and Sean Rabacal, Jennifer Salvatore and Tom Wright-Itay, Rebecca and Shalin Sanghvi, Jeneva and Stephen Sedlar, Tina and Andy Simon, Jong Woo Sin and Ji Young Jeong, Park Sung Je and Heo Hye Young, Jennifer and Clive Taylor, Emily Timm Chan and Erick Chan Salas, Mark and Heather Timmons, Kimberly and Scott Williams, Nicole and Mike Wilt.

We hope you've enjoyed this issue of the Science Factory eNews. If you have thoughts, feedback, questions or just want to say hello, please email us at sfmarketing@sciencefactory.org.

We hope to see you soon!

Science Factory Staff

Science Factory Children's Museum & Planetarium

Regular Hours: Wednesday-Sunday, 10am-4pm

Phone: 682-7888

www.sciencefactory.org

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