



**The Children's Museum**  
of Indianapolis  
P.O. Box 3000  
Indianapolis, IN 46206-3000

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Indianapolis, IN  
Permit No. 1067

*Presenting Sponsor of School Services*



*Official Partners of The Children's Museum*



# Preschool

2008 – 2009

# School Visits



**The Children's Museum**  
of Indianapolis

## Hands-on Learning for Preschoolers

The Children's Museum of Indianapolis offers a host of learning opportunities just for preschool groups. Bring your 3, 4 and 5-year-olds on a trip to the world's largest children's museum, complete with stimulating, enriching programs created especially for preschoolers.

## Playscape

Playscape is a limited-access gallery, offering a unique, protected environment for preschoolers. It is designed for young children, infants to age 5. The activities in Playscape provide youngsters with an opportunity to learn through the method that is most successful for them: play!

**Please note, gallery reservations are required.**

**The Playscape gallery will be closed for annual maintenance from Feb. 2 – 6, 2009.**

# Permanent Exhibits

## Fireworks of Glass

Young children are enthralled with the color and light of Fireworks of Glass, a 43-foot-tall blown glass installation by renowned artist Dale Chihuly. Preschoolers will enjoy hands-on activities on the Lower Level, where they can create their own sculptures with a variety of colorful, glass-like shapes. [\(Online Unit\)](#)

## All Aboard!

This is as close as kids can get to the real experience of riding on a train pulled by the 55-ton Reuben Wells steam engine, which operated in Madison, Indiana in the 1860s. The toy train layouts nearby hold additional fascination for children. [\(Online Unit\)](#)

## Dinosphere: Now You're in Their World®

Preschoolers love dressing up like a dinosaur and seeing Baby Louie, a fossilized baby dinosaur found curled up in his nest. Visitors can also wear goggles and help dig for "buried fossils." [\(Online Units\)](#)

## Carousel Wishes and Dreams

Children love this magical, whimsical space, which includes the Carousel, a tree house and playhouse in a garden that changes with the season and encourages pretend play. Note: Carousel rides are \$1 per person. Children less than 44 inches tall must be accompanied by an adult. Note: *The Carousel will be closed for annual maintenance from Sept. 8 – 29.* [\(Online Guide\)](#)

## ScienceWorks in the Dow Science Center

Preschoolers make exciting discoveries at an Indiana freshwater pond, complete with turtles and frogs. Another ScienceWorks favorite is the construction site, where children use foam rocks and child-size machinery to build, build, build. [\(Online Unit\)](#)

## Health House

A visit to Health House encourages children and parents to learn important lessons about nutrition and active play. [\(Online Unit\)](#)

# Temporary Exhibits

## Jolly Days Winter Wonderland Nov. 28, 2008 – Jan. 6, 2009

Enjoy traditional holiday favorites such as the Yule Slide, Jingles the Jolly Bear and visits with Santa. A winter wonderland Snow Castle invites interactive play and provides a toddler-size version of the popular Yule Slide. Try your ice-fishing skills in the Fishing Shack, or visit the Cookie Café and warm up your imagination with lots of cookie fun.

## LEGO® Castle Adventure Jan. 31 – May 3, 2009

Builders of all ages are invited to explore, build and play in *LEGO Castle Adventure!* In this exhibit, students are transported to a LEGO kingdom where they can become master castle builders, using one of the greatest building materials of all time — LEGO bricks. In *LEGO Castle Adventure*, visitors can construct castles, learn about real-world castles and their building secrets, and plan their ideal castle's defenses. Students can even explore the inside of the royal castle, test their fortress designs with a catapult and spot a dragon. [\(Online Unit\)](#)

Produced by The Children's Museum of Indianapolis in cooperation with LEGO Systems, Inc. LEGO and the LEGO logo are trademarks of the LEGO Group. ©2008 The LEGO Group. All rights reserved.

# Guided Experiences

Pre-registration is required. Guided experiences must be specifically requested when making a reservation.



## All Aboard!

**Thursdays, October – May  
10, 10:30, 11 and 11:30 a.m.**

*20 minutes, 30 students*

I think I can, I think I can ... discover the museum's steam engine, and what makes the Reuben Wells so special! By standing face to face with this mighty engine and listening to stories, students will journey back in time to discover the importance and excitement of trains. [\(Online Guide\)](#)

## Keep the Rhythm

**Tuesdays, October – May  
10, 10:30, 11 and 11:30 a.m.**

*20 minutes, 30 students*

Explore the world of rhythm with drumbeats! Students will discover various African drums and experiment with beats and rhythms. Working together, students will have a chance to create and perform percussive music of their own. [\(Online Guide\)](#)

## Plants Alive! Seed Germination

**Mondays and Wednesdays,  
March – May  
10, 10:30, 11 and 11:30 a.m.**

*20 minutes, 15 students, 3 adults*

Are plants alive? Where do they come from? Examine a seed to learn what makes it so special, and then test your green thumb by getting seeds ready to germinate. Take these baby plants back to your classroom to watch them grow and discover plant life cycles.

[\(Online Guide\)](#)

## Weekday Presentations

### Ask a Paleontologist Lower Level, Dinosphere Paleo Prep Lab

*10 a.m. – noon, continuous interpretation*

[\(Online Guide\)](#)

### Water Clock Level 1, Welcome Center

*12:45 p.m., 20 minutes*

[\(Online Guide\)](#)

### Mad Scientist Level 4, ScienceWorks

*11 a.m., 10 minutes*

[\(Online Guide\)](#)

### Active Play Level 4, Health House in ScienceWorks

*11:30 a.m., 15 minutes*

[\(Online Guide\)](#)

# SpaceQuest® Planetarium

Reservations are required.

Planetarium closed Sept. 2 – 12 and Jan. 5 – 9. No school shows March 23 – April 10.



## The Sky Above Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood

**Tuesdays; September – May; 10 a.m.**

*25 minutes, 130 seats*

Introduce your preschoolers to the wonder and magic of the stars. Explore the night sky and follow the rising of the sun and the moon with characters from Mr. Rogers' "Neighborhood of Make-Believe."

[\(Online Guide\)](#)



## In My Backyard

**Wednesdays and Thursdays;**

**September – May; 10 a.m.**

**(Wednesdays only in November)**

*38 minutes, 130 seats*

Take a tour of backyard wonders such as bird feeders, spiders, ladybugs, rainbows and, of course, the stars and the moon. Join in the fun by singing, counting and clapping. [\(Online Guide\)](#)



## Basic Museum Information

### Hours

The museum is open for preschool groups:  
September – February,  
Tuesday – Friday, 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
March – May, Monday – Friday,  
9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
School reservations are not accepted for peak visitation dates, including school breaks.  
Note: Dinosphere opens at 10 a.m.

### Schol Group Admission

Preschool groups must have a minimum of 15 students and register in advance to receive reduced admission.

Youth: \$4

Required Free (one adult is  
Adults: required for every  
10 students)

Additional \$6.50

Adults:

Museum members with appropriate documentation: Free

### Playscape Policies

Reservations are required, and one adult per five students must accompany groups. Late arrivals are not guaranteed admittance. Groups share the gallery with families. Maximum number is 45, including adults, per 30-minute reservation.

### Reservations

Schedule a field trip online at your convenience at [ChildrensMuseum.org](http://ChildrensMuseum.org), or call (317) 334-4000 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. A limited number of school reservations are available each day, and we recommend scheduling your visit as far in advance as possible.